FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

A security source cited by Beirut radio disclosed that twelve Internal Security Force officers carried out "exploratory" work for the coastal road security plan on 2 January, adding that units of the Internal Security Forces would begin deploying in accordance with the plan early the following morning. In a related report, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said that the Internal Security Forces will deploy in six locations in the Al-Kharrub region after local militias have removed mines from the main coastal road. As for the issue of kidnapped persons, whose relatives have blocked crossing points between East and West Beirut, the commander of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces called on all parties to release their captives, expressing his own side's readiness in this regard, according to the radio.

In Israel, an IDF radio commentary on the Al-Naqurah talks noted that UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart has warned Israel that UNIFIL will be disbanded if the Al-Naqurah talks end without an arrangement. However, the assessment in Jerusalem is that the talks will continue beyond 7 January because all the signs indicate that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has allowed Lebanon to present "some kind of new position" which will prevent a crisis in the talks, according to the radio. Nevertheless, in a report on Al-Asad's meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil on 26-27 December, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio asserted that the Syrian leader rejected Al-Jumayyil's proposal to agree to the deployment of UNIFIL up to the Al-Awwali River because this would constitute submission to Israel.

Israel and the Palestinians

Replying to a question in the Knesset, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres made it clear that Israel is still willing to allow assassinated PLO official Fahd al-Qawasimi's body to be buried in Hebron in exchange for the return of Israel's missing soldiers, Jerusalem radio reported. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told the Knesset that Israel will agree to the transfer of Al-Qawasimi's body if the PLO provides information about the fate of the missing IDF soldiers, according to IDF radio. Meanwhile, a PLO official cited by AFP asserted that the "Black September" group which claimed responsibility for the assassination is directed by the intelligence department of the Syrian Air Force. In Damascus, a PFLP-General Command spokesman denied PLO official Hani al-Hasan's accusation that the General Command was involved in the assassination, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

King Husayn returned to Jordan after his visit to Saudi Arabia for talks on the current Arab situation and bilateral relations, Amman radio reported. Jordanian sources cited by AFP viewed Husayn's talks with King Fahd as "very important," noting that the two monarchs discussed the Iran-Iraq war, the general Middle East situation, and cooperation between Jordan and the PLO.

In a related commentary, Cairo radio indicated that Husayn's visit to Saudi Arabia was the first part of a tour of Arab countries in which he will attempt to overcome problems obstructing the convening of an Arab summit conference and pave the way for a joint Arab move on all regional issues. Expressing support for Husayn's view that the Arab League should renounce the principle of Arab unanimity in decisionmaking, the radio stressed that holding a dialogue with Syria and Libya over the PLO or Gulf issues would be a waste of time and that convening the summit conference should not be contingent upon the approval of all member states. The summit should be convened by any number of members and its first decision should be to invite Egypt to attend, the radio added.

As for current Libyan-Syrian contacts, JANA said that Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's message delivered to President al-Asad on 1 January was concerned with the "gaps" facing Palestinian action. Earlier, in remarks to Palestinian students reported by JANA, Al-Qadhdhafi called for a "new rebellion" in Palestinian ranks and for the abolition of all the "traditional" Palestinian leaderships, asserting that the Palestinian situation is bad because of the "vacancy" in the Palestinian leadership which has not been filled since Yasir 'Arafat "pulled out" of the resistance.

Afghanistan

Soviet planes inadvertently bombed one of their own military convoys in the Herat region recently, destroying eight vehicles and killing "many" soldiers, according to a report from Afghanistan cited by Karachi radio.

Western Sahara

An SDAR communique reported by Algiers radio claimed that Polisario forces killed or wounded 120 Moroccan troops in the Western Sahara during an attack launched on 31 December.

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'Arafat Thanks World Leaders for Condolences

JN030827 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Jan 85 p 24

[Text] Amman — *AL-DUSTUR* correspondent has learned that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday sent written messages to Arab kings, presidents, and amirs, and to leaders of Islamic, nonaligned, African, and friendly countries on the situation in the Palestinian arena, and the serious dimensions of the assassination of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi. It has also been learned that Yasir 'Arafat sent a similar message to USSR leaders. 'Arafat also sent letters of thanks to Arab kings, presidents, and leaders and to world leaders who had sent cables of condolences on the assassination of Martyr al-Qawasimi.

PFLP-GC Denies Assassinating Al-Qawasimi

JN030725 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] A PFLP-GC spokesman has denied the front's involvement in the assassination of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi. Hani al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, last Tuesday accused the PFLP-GC of assassinating Al-Qawasimi.

INA: 'Arafat Chairs PLO Executive Committee Meeting

JN021219 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Amman, 2 Jan (INA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat chaired a PLO Executive Committee meeting here this morning.

The INA correspondent in Amman has learned from a Palestinian source that the committee will discuss future Palestinian moves in both the Arab and international arenas and the results of 'Arafat's recent visit to Aden and his talks with officials there. The committee will also discuss replacing Fahd al-Qawasimi after his assassination in Amman last Saturday.

During its meeting in Amman on 25 December under 'Arafat, the PLO Executive Committee discussed issues concerning the Palestinian-Jordanian joint move in the Arab and international arenas, and also the possibility of convening an international conference on the Palestine question.

Further on Meeting

JN021942 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat chaired a PLO Executive Committee meeting here today. Part of the meeting was devoted to eulogizing Martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi, PLO Executive Committee member and deported Hebron mayor, and to studying all the details and information pertaining to his assassination.

The committee also discussed topics related to the joint Jordanian-Paelstinian committee and reviewed reports prepared by the Paelstinian side on the activities of this committee and the issues on its agenda that were suspended as a result of the freezing of a large part of Arab financing. It also dicussed a number of topics pertaining to the PLO's bodies and institutions.

'Arafat Receives Support Cables From DPRK, Cuba

GF290830 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 28 Dec 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received cables of support and congratulations from the DPRK president and the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee on the 20th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution. He also received a reply message from the Romanian president affirming the need to strengthen and expand bilateral relations for the sake of establishing peace and achieving progress.

From GDR's Honecker

JN011728 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1535 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a congratulatory cable from GDR State Council Chairman Erich Honecker on the Palestinian revolution's 20th anniversary. Our correspondent learned that in his cable, Erich Honecker reiterated his country's firm support for and continued solidarity with our Palestinian people in their just struggle to regain their legitimate and firm rights, including their right to return, to self-determination, and to establishing their independent Palestinian state on their national soil.

From Pakistan's Ziaul Haq

GF011736 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution, Paksitan has reiterated its full support to the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their legitimate national rights. In a message to Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution, Pakistani President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed confidence that the sacrifices of the Palestinian people will not go unnoticed, but will ensure in the near future Palestinian national rights and the establishment of an independent state.

Sanaa VOP Comments on Revolution Anniversary

GF011910 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, today is 1 January. This day means a lot of things for the sons of the Palestinian people. On this day 20 years ago, the pioneers of the national Palestinian liberation movement, Fatah, fired the first bullet against the Zionist enemy and against the Zionist presence in our lands, thus declaring the beginning of the armed revolution which aims at regaining Palestinian rights usurped by this enemy.

Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, addressed a message to the Palestinian masses and the masses of the Arab nation, in which he affirmed that the issue of the Palestinian people has surpassed the danger and has imposed itself on the world's equation as a movement for liberation and national independence. He said that it is not possible to establish a lasting peace in the region without ensuring and meeting the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. In his message Brother Abu 'Ammar said: In order to achieve peace there should be an Arab political and military force to enable the Arabs to obtain their rights.

Brother Abu 'Ammar reiterated the PLO's rejection of the Reagan plan and said that the acceptable peace plan is represented by the Arab plan which was approved by the Fes summit and which was accepted by all Arab countries. He said that the armed struggle has been and will remain the major course and [word indistinct] option. He added that the conspiracy against us has not ended and that our fate is to continue the struggle, because only this ensures the continuation of the revolution.

Brother Abu 'Ammar reviewed the stage which preceded the convening of the 17th session of the PNC and the difficulties during that stage. He said that the PLO is continuing its march with Jordan [words indistinct].

Riyadh Group Marks Palestine Revolution Anniversary

LD021743 Kuwait KUNA in English 1543 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 2 (KUNA) — The mainstream Palestinian commando group Fatah office in Saudi Arabia celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution under the patronage of Riyadh's Governor Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Addressing a gathering here Tuesday night marking the anniversary, Prince Salman praised the valiant resistance of the Palestinian people and expressed hope that they would succeed in recovering their inalienable rights including the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

He affirmed the strong nature of the Palestinian revolution and urged the Palestinian people to unify their ranks to face the Zionist challenges so as to realize their cherished goals. "Victory will be within your reach as long as the Palestinian brethren and their leaders continue the just struggle in a unified way and preserving [as received] their steadfastness, particularly at this crucial stage facing the Palestinian people," he said. Prince Salman reiterated the Kingdom's firm backing to the Palestinian people and revolution out of its Islamic responsibility and cordial ties with the Palestinian brethren.

For his part, Rafiq al-Natshah, PLO representative to the Kingdom and member of the Central Committee of Fatah, recalled the Palestinian struggle ever since the occupation of Palestine by the Zionist entity and the displacing of thousands of Palestinians from their homeland. He praised the Kingdom's unlimited and firm backing to the Palestine cause since the days of late King 'Abd al-'Aziz until today.

Al-Natshah also underlined the importance of the Kingdom's full political and material support to the Palestinian people under HM King Fahd's government and welcomed the Saudi monarch's positive stand during the recent meeting of the PNC held in Amman.

The gathering was attended by Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir, Foreign Under Secretary 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Thuniyan, and senior Saudi officials.

'Arafat Addresses Palestinian Women in Aden

GF290840 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 28 Dec 84

["Text" of speech by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestine revolution forces, at the constituent conference of the PDRY branch of the General Union of Palestinian Women in Aden on 28 December — recorded]

[Text] Sisters and brothers, it pleases me [words indistinct] participate with you in the conference which coincides with the conclusion of the 17th PNC session, thus becoming the first popular organizational meeting in the Palestinian arena. This is not a coincidence. Destiny has ordained this meeting which we are attending in the PDRY [applause] where sons of the Palestinian section and the southern part of Yemen meet in the land of revolutionaries and struggle.

Greetings from the sons of the Palestinian section to our brother and comrade in arms, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad [applause]. Greetings from our steadfast and struggling people to this courageous, hospitable, and brave people in the southern part of Yemen. Greetings from the Palestinian section to the southern part of fraternal Yemen [applause]. Nor is it a coincidence that after a few days — indeed after a few hours — 96 hours to be exact — we will enter the 21st year of our victorious Palestinian revolution. [applause] [passage indistinct]

We have fought a difficult battle. [words indistinct] We left Beirut and, instead of wrapping our wounds, Arab daggers were directed to the back of the Palestinian revolution. I tell our brothers and sisters that amid this long, hard, and cumbersome march, I would like to say: We pledge and vow that we will continue this revolution, this hard and long march. Many attempts are being made to undermine this revolution and usurp this gun which has been fighting for 20 years on all fronts.

On this occasion, I extend greetings to my brother fighters, the comrades in arms, who are fighting with us and have fought with us. They are the brothers in the Palestine Liberation Front, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Arab Liberation Front, and all who stood with this revolution to defend its independent Palestinian decisionmaking.

I tell all these brothers: We are with you in this trench. We are fighting not only for Palestine, but for Lebanon.

Kuwaiti Daily Interviews PLO's Al-Surani

GF021218 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1008 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Jan (WAKH) — PLO Executive Committee member Jamal al-Surani has stressed that U.S. ambitions in the Gulf states threaten the entire Arab nation with total destruction.

In a statement published today by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, Mr al-Surani said that what goes on in the Gulf affects the Arab homeland positively or negatively, and therefore the responsibility of the Gulf is a big one and has to conform with the supreme responsibility of the entire Arab homeland.

He called for quick action to end the Iraqi-Iranian war to prevent it from being used as a pretext by the Americans to establish bases in the Arab homeland.

Mr al-Surani spoke about the PNC meeting in November in Amman and said: "The PNC affirmed the reality of its independent national decisionmaking and this council is convened in accordance with the Palestinian will, which is not influenced by Arab or foreign intervention."

About the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement, Mr al-Surani said: "We have always been in a state of rapprochement. When there are unclear matters we try to clarify them and talk with a mutual vision."

Libya-Fatah Relations Said To Be Improving

PM311531 Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 23 Dec 84 p 1

[Samir Sa'd al-Din report: "Signs of Rapprochement Between Fatah and Libya. Tripoli Suspends Aid to Dissidents"]

[Text] Athens — *AL-RIYAD* has learned from Palestinian sources close to the Fatah Central Committee that the movement has recently received a message from Tripoli. The sources refused to reveal the contents of the message but did say that this message is actually the seventh of its kind since the Libyan-Palestinian dispute began.

Meanwhile, *AL-RIYAD* has learned that the Libyan Government has suspended its financial aid to the groups opposed to Fatah and that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi recently told a delegation of Fatah dissidents that their information about Palestinian majority support for them was incorrect.

During a recent meeting with a PFLP Political Bureau member, Libya's Chairman Col al-Qadhdhafi expressed his conviction that the opposition was not serious. Al-Qadhdhafi's meeting with PFLP Secretary General George Habash last week only lasted 90 minutes, after which it was agreed that the talks would be resumed with the Libyan prime minister in the presence of Chief of Staff Abu Bakr Yunis. Al-Qadhdhafi promptly left for Spain.

It has been learned that the groups opposed to Fatah are trying to form a broad front without the Democratic Alliance, because George Habash has expressed support for the PLO.

Palestine Liberation Front Condemns 'Arafat's Moves

JN021442 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Beirut, 2 Jan (SANA) — The Palestine Liberation Front has asserted the importance of Palestinian-Syrian revolutionary cohesion to confront the line of conspiracy and deviation represented by Yasir 'Arafat and his alliance with the Black September butcher's regime in Amman and the Camp David regime in Cairo.

A statement distributed here today on the 20th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution said that the Palestinian rifle will remain raised despite the plots by 'Arafat and his clique and their alliance with the despots of reactionary regimes. The statement asserted that the nationalist and pan-Arab forces will stand by the Palestinian people's struggle and will defeat the deviation and conspiracy of 'Arafat and his allies, who are hostile to the Arab nation.

The statement said that Syria will remain, as it has always been, the heart of the Palestinian revolution. It added that being in the arms of Jordan's king and Egypt's ruler will not benefit 'Arafat and his clique but will lead to surrender to the Zionist enemy and will promote the aims of U.S. imperialism, which is frantically trying to make our nation kneel and to impose terms of capitulation on its generations.

The statement asserted that the shouting by 'Arafat and his clique and their threats and calumnies against the honorable strugglers of the Palestinian people and against every nationalist and pan-Arab stand in our Arab homeland will not save 'Arafat and his clique from punishment by the Palestinian people, who reject him and all deviators and traitors.

The statement added that our people will continue their struggle against the Zionist enemy and its dissident and conspiratorial agents until victory is achieved.

PLO Radio: Resistence Operations in West Bank

JN281635 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Dec 84

[Text] According to the revolution command's instructions and in accordance with its decisions regarding escalating armed struggle inside the occupied homeland, the main arena of struggle, a group of our hero revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland used incendiary bombs to attack a Zionist military vehicle yesterday while it was passing near the Zionist settlement of Qiryat Arba' in the occupied West Bank. Several Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded in the attack.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but declined to mention losses. He said that his forces rushed into the area, launched a large-scale serach campaign, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of having a connection with the operation.

Near Yattah, Ramallah

JN291734 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Dec 84

[Text] Our hero revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland resumed their operations in accordance with the revolution command's instructions regarding escalating armed struggle against the Zionist enemy in the occupied homeland, the main arena of struggle.

A group of our revolutionaries inside the occupied homeland attacked a Zionist military vehicle while it was passing through the town of Yattah in the occupied West Bank. The attack, which was carried out with machineguns and hand grenades, resulted in direct hits which either killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. The Zionist enemy radio, which admitted the operation, has declined to mention losses. It said that the Israeli forces immediately cordoned off the area and launched a large-scale search for our revolutionaries. However, all these attempts were in vain.

Our hero revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland also used machine guns to attack a big truck on a road between the villages of Abud and Dayr Abu Mash'al near Ramallah in the occupied West Bank. The driver of the Zionist truck was seriously wounded in the attack. The enemy radio also admitted this attack. The radio said that the Israeli forces imposed a curfew on the villages of Abud and Dayr Abu Mash'al immediately after the attack. The radio added that Israeli forces launched search campaigns in the area for the attackers, who withdrew safely to their bases inside the occupied homeland.

Resistance Operations in Southern Lebanon

JN281754 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 28 Dec 84

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men continue to escalate their operations against the forces and vehicles of the Zionist forces of invasion in occupied southern Lebanon.

A resistance group set off a high explosive, remote-controlled charge yesterday while a Zionist military patrol was passing through Dayr Qanun al-Nahr near the southern port of Tyre. A large Zionist personnel carrier was destroyed and all of its occupants were either killed or injured. Another resistance group set off remote-controlled charges yesterday while a Zionist military patrol was passing near Al-Kharayit in occupied southern Lebanon. The explosion destroyed one Zionist half-track military vehicle and damaged another. Their occupants were either killed ro injured.

Another resistance group attacked a Zionist military patrol yesterday while it was passing near Al-Burghuliyah in occupied southern Lebanon. A large Zionist military vehicle was destroyed and all of its occupants were either killed or wounded in the machine gun and rocket attack. Another resistance group also carried out a machine gun and rocket attack yesterday against a Zionist military patrol while it was passing near Al-Sharniyah in occupied southern Lebanon. A jeep was destroyed and a large number of Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded. Another resistance group attacked a Zionist military patrol yesterday while it was passing near Jwayya in occupied southern Lebanon. One Zionist military vehicle was destroyed and another was damaged. Their occupants were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operations but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces immediately carried out extensive search campaigns and arrested large numbers of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of collaborating with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to base.

Operations Continue

JN011828 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1540 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men continue to escalate their operations against the forces and vehicles of the Zionist forces of invasion in occupied southern Lebanon inflicting on them more losses.

A resistance group set off a high explosive, remote-controlled charge this morning while a Zionist military patrol was passing on a road east of Sidon, the capital of occupied southern Lebanon. A Zionist vehicle was destroyed and its occupants were either killed or injured.

Another resistance group set off remote-controlled charges this morning while a Zionist military patrol was passing on the Tyre-Al-Naqurah road near the village of Al-Qalilah in the occupied south. A vehicle was destroyed, another was damaged, and their occupants were either killed or injured.

Another resistance group also carried out a machine gun and rocket attack today against a Zionist military convoy consisting of 18 trucks, a jeep, and a tanker while passing on the Sidon-Tyre international road. Three Zionist trucks were completely destroyed, the jeep was damaged, and their occupants were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operations but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces immediately carried out extensive search campaigns. The Zionist forces fired indiscriminately at people, martyring one citizen and wounding four others, and arrested a large number of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens on the pretext of collaborating with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to base.

Near Metulla, Qiryat Shemona

JN022038 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2012 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 2 Jan (SANA) — The Martyr Sa'd Sayil unit, which operates behind Zionist enemy lines, shelled the settlements of Metulla and Qiryat Shemona in northern Palestine with Katuysha rockets this morning. Citing a military spokesman of Fatah and the General Command of Al-'Asifah forces, WAFA says that the rockets scored accurate hits. Ambulances immediately rushed to the scene and helicopters flew over southern

Lebanon in a desperate attempt to arrest those who carried out the heroic operations. The spokesman said that the unit members returned safely to base.

KUNA: Arab Summit Reportedly Set for Late January

LD281519 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1427 GMT 28 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Rabat, 28 Dec (KUNA) — Diplomatic sources here have stated that most sides have agreed to convene the next Arab summit in Riyadh between 28 January and the beginning of February.

These sources explained to KUNA that the Moroccan monarch, King Hassan II, has made great efforts in contacting a number of Arab sides with a view to convincing them of the need to convene and to attend the conference, even if it is convened by only a majority of states. These sources said that Libya has agreed to attend the conference, either in the person of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi or Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud.

The Dubayy *AL-BAYAN* today quoted informed sources in Tunis as saying that Syria has refused to attend the next Arab summit conference, even if the question of the return of Egypt to the Arab league was not discussed.

However, Tunisian foreign minister, Beji Caid Essebsi said it is futile to convene the Arab summit under the present circumstances. In a statement to the Tunisian *AL-AMAL* published today, Essebsi said his country is of the opinion that the different stances of the Arab states toward certain issues does not make a suitable climate for convening such a summit or for achieving success at the conference. He warned that the failure of the Arab summit might create further disappointment to the Arab people, who are looking forward to successful and practical resolutions and to the unification of Arab stances toward Islamic issues.

WAKH: Iraqi Official Reacts to Iranian Claims on OPEC

GF021446 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1320 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Jan (WAKH) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi has denied that OPEC allowed Iran to make special reductions in its oil prices. In a statement to the WAKH correspondent in Baghdad, he said that this subject was not discussed in the meeting that was held last week.

Taqi was commenting on statements made by Iranian Oil Minister Mohammad Qarazi and carried by Tehran Radio today in which he said that OPEC agreed to allow Iran make special reductions in its oil prices in order to make up for the rise in the insurance on tankers that arrive at Khark Island. The Iraqi official stressed that OPEC did not issue any resolution or recommendation in this regard.

Well-informed sources in Baghdad termed the statement of the Iranian oil minister as an official recognition of the success of the Iraqi blockade clamped on Khark Island and of its effect on Iran's economy. These sources went on to say that the Iranian minister possibly made these statements in order to apprise the concerned companies of his country's readiness to make further concessions in order to encourage them to send their tankers to the besieged island.

News reports have indicated that Japanese oil companies have suspended loading their tankers with Iranian oil, fearing the danger of Iraqi air attacks. The latest statistics indicate that Iraq hit over 100 maritime targets last year as part of the blockade operation.

Kuwaiti Minister Discusses Production With PRC

GF031012 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 3 Jan 85 p 11

[Text] Kuwait — Kuwait's Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah yesterday flew to China, Asia's biggest oil producer, where analysts expect him to seek support for OPEC efforts to prop up sagging world oil prices. He will be in China for a week.

Shaykh 'Ali, who will later pay a three-day official visit to Japan, the world's second largest oil importer, said before leaving that his trip would concentrate on ways to boost economic ties between Kuwait and the two Asian countries.

Gulf oil analysts expect him to ask China to join other producers outside OPEC in restraining output to back OPEC production cuts aimed at shoring up world oil prices.

China produced 2.3 million bpd in 1984, eight per cent up on 1983 and one million bpd more than OPEC's only Asian member Indonesia. Analysts in Beijing have estimated exports for the year would be up sharply by around 25 per cent at 380,000 bpd.

The Kuwaiti minister, in the forefront of a series of moves recently to protect OPEC's official pricing, said he would deliver a message to Chinese leaders from the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, on economic cooperation.

He said he would also sign in Beijing a loan on behalf of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, which channels concessionary development aid to the Third World. He gave no details.

Diplomats expect Shaykh 'Ali's visit to China to focus on joint energy projects, specially in the ambitious South China Sea offshore oil search in which Kuwait is already active.

BAHRAIN

Amir on Arab Summit; Praises Egypt, Jordan

GF030452 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 3 Jan 85 p 2

[Excerpt] HH the amir says that Bahrain would support an Arab summit, but only if it is aimed at achieving the interests of the Arab nation. Such a summit must not allow "a war of slogans that would cause more alienation and segregation," said Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah in an interview published yesterday in the Egyptian weekly magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*.

The amir praised Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, describing him as a leader "anxious to keep good relations with everyone." "His policies and his stand from Israel showed he worked for the welfare of his country and for the Arab nation," the amir said.

He described Jordanian monarch King Husayn's restoration of links with Egypt as a "courageous step," adding it would have to be followed by similar steps. "I believe these steps are on the way," he said.

The amir also praised Egypt's support for Iraq in its war with Iran describing it as a big and efficient role. He also hailed Egypt's pledge to defend the Arab countries of the region if their security was endangered.

OMAN

Briefs

New Saudi, Somali Ambassadors — Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, today received the credentials of the new Saudi resident ambassador, 'Abd al-Muhsin al-Balla' and the new resident Somali ambassador, Adan Issak Ahmed. [Summary] [*Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Jan 84 GF*]

New Ministry Established — Muscat, 2 Jan (WAKH) — Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman today issued an edict ordering the establishment of the Ministry of Regional Municipalities Affairs. The edict includes appointing Brigadier General al-Mu'tasim ibn Humud Al Bu Sa'idi to head this ministry and 'Abd al-Hamid ibn Ya'rib Al Bu Sa'idi as under secretary. [Summary] [*Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 2 Jan 85 GF*]

New Budget Approved — The Sultanate's new budget for this year, which was approved by Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id yesterday, is 1.918 billion Omani riyals, representing an increase of 135 million riyals compared to last year's budget. State revenues this year will reach 1.719 billion riyals, representing an increase of 185 million riyals compared to last year's revenues. Oil revenues this year are expected to be 1.290 billion riyals, or an increase of 192 million riyals compared to last year's oil revenues. As a result of increasing revenues for this year's budget, the deficit in the budget went down by 5 million riyals to reach 199 million riyals in this year's budget compared to 204 million riyals last year. The Sultanate's nonpetroleum revenues in this year's budget are 212 million riyals compared to 170 million last year. [Text] [*Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Jan 85 GF*]

Qatar

Amir Receives PLO's Salah Khalaf

GF031146 Doha QNA in Arabic 1118 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 3 Jan (QNA) — Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received this morning Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member, who is currently visiting Doha.

The meeting, which was attended by Yasin al-Sharif, director of the PLO office in Doha, reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian question on the Arab and international arenas, in addition to the Arab situation.

QNA has learned that during this meeting his highness the amir hailed the Palestinian revolution and its continuing struggle and what it has offered throughout the past 20 years on the Palestinian, Arab, and international levels. He renewed his support for the PLO, considering it the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Amir Receives Senegalese President's Message

GF031150 Doha QNA in Arabic 1115 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 3 Jan (QNA) — Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf on increasing cooperation between the two countries in various fields. The message was delivered by Adam [name indistinct], adviser to the Senegalese president, who is currently visiting Doha, during his meeting with the amir this morning.

The Senegalese official arrived in Doha on Tuesday within his current tour of a number of the region's states.

SAUDI ARABIA

Pakistani Oil Minister Arrives in Riyadh

LD311322 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1031 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] Riyadh, 31 Dec (SPA) — The Pakistani minister of petroleum and natural resources, Dr Assad Khan, arrived this morning in Riyadh on a visit to the Kingdom. He was met at the airport by the minister of state and acting minister of petroleum and natural resources, Mohammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, and a number of Petroleum Ministry officials.

Comments on 'Fruitful' Talks

LD021621 Riyadh SPA in English 1218 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 2, SPA — Pakistani Oil and Natural Resources Minister Mohammad Asad Khan has admired good

command shown by Saudi cadres in running big and sophisticated oil installations in the Kingdom.

Prior to his departure for Dhahran here last night, as part of a visit to Saudi Arabia, Khan described his talks with Prince Sultan, the second deputy premier and defence and aviation minister and other Saudi officials as "fruitful and constructive." He also expressed pride for the existing excellent relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia and hoped that they would continue to grow further in the coming days.

Comenting on the situation in the oil market, he stressed that rational measures on oil consumption and economic recession in the industrialized world had led to a decline in oil demand during recent years. He said any economic recovery in the Western countries would lead to a rise in oil purchases and urged for preserving the present oil price structure so as to ensure the balance between demand and supply. Khan ruled out prospects of any other energy alternatives to replace oil because of high-cost of production and complicated methods of such alternatives.

'UKAZ Lauds UN Resolution, Criticizes U.S. Stance

PM021626 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 13 Dec 84 p 3

[Editorial: "A Positive Resolution, But!"]

[Text] The UN General Assembly's resolution urging the setting up of a Palestinian state is a positive sign reflecting increasing international conviction that the Palestinian cause is a just cause and the realization that the Palestinian question is the core of the Middle East conflict.

The UN resolution is a positive initiative denoting a clear change in the international concept of the basis of just peace in the region. This is a demonstration of the effectiveness of the Arab efforts exerted in this connection.

We must realize, however, that despite this change the United States, Canada, and Israel voted against the UN draft resolution, meaning that they are determined not to recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the PLO, and that they are adamantly against an international peace conference.

The UN General Assembly's resolutions are not binding, but they are simply a clear indication that, now more than ever before, the international scene is set for a concerted Arab move to strengthen the belief that the Arabs do want a just and comprehensive peace that would establish security and stability in the region. Such a move calls for a unified Arab strategy with assigned roles aimed at exploiting this positive change and developing it into more effective practical steps in the interest of our fateful causes.

There can be no doubt that the United States is the main arena where efforts should be intensified to convince the U.S. Administration that its absolute support for Israel neither promotes U.S. credibility nor serves the cause of peace or U.S.-Arab relations. Israel relies on this U.S. attitude in its continuous rejection of UN resolutions, violation of international charters and traditions, and refusal to abandon its aggressive and expansionist policy in the region.

It is the duty of all peace-loving states, especially in Europe, to play a positive part in convincing the United States that the Arabs want nothing more than their legitimate rights and just peace and that U.S. relations with the Zionist entity should not be at the expense of peace and Arab rights. Within this strategy, we should assure the world that we want peace and have the ability to wrest the usurped rights if peaceful efforts fail.

UAE

Maldives President Concludes Visit, Departs

GF030940 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom left Abu Dhabi today following a short 1-day visit to the UAE on his way back home from Saudi Arabia. During his visit to Saudi Arabia, the Maldivian president took part in the meetings of the Constituent Council of the Muslim World League.

President Zayid Leaves for Pakistan 3 Jan

GF030932 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Jan (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan left Abu Dhabi for Karachi today on a private visit to Pakistan. Shaykh Zayid is accompanied by Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council in the UAE and ruler of Umm al-Qaywayn; and Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister of the UAE.

Vice President Departs for Pakistan

GF030938 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Dubayy, 3 Jan (WAKH) — Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, vice president and deputy prime minister of the UAE, left Dubayy for Karachi this morning on a private visit to Pakistan that will last several days. He was seen off by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid, UAE defense minister, and a number of officials.

PDRY

Briefs

New Envoy to Madagascar — Brother Sa'id Hadi 'Awad last week presented his credentials to [name indistinct], Madagascar foreign minister, as PDRY ambassador to Madagascar. [Summary] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Dec 84 GF*]

Radio Protocol with Hungary — A radio cooperation protocol was signed at the State Committee for Information today between the PDRY and Hungary. The protocol was signed by Brother Jamal al-Khatib, director general of the radio station,

and the Hungarian ambassador in Aden. [Summary] [*Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Dec 84 GF*]

YAR

Briefs

Outgoing Syrian Envoy — Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, YAR deputy prime minister, chairman of the People's Constituent Council, and member of the Standing Committee, met today with Syrian Ambassador Muhammad al-Mahmud at the conclusion of his assignment to the YAR. During the meeting they discussed fraternal relations and means of promoting them. [Text] [*Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 2 Jan 85 GF*]

Mubarak Receives Good Wishes From Pope Shinudah

NC022130 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2040 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 2 Jan (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received a cable of thanks from Pope Shinudah, pope of Alexandria and patriarch of the missionary province of St Mark, on the occasion of the new year. The cable reads:

I thank you for your affection and wish you success in achieving everything good for our homeland. I congratulate you on the new year; may it be a happy and blessed year and may God be with you to guide your steps and to make Egypt happy with you. May it be a year of peace, reassurance, and unity for our country, the Middle East, and the whole world. As God has helped you in solving many problems, He is also capable of helping you in all other matters.

Dr Ghali on Nile Basin States Cooperation

NC021514 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 2 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has emphasized the importance of boosting cooperation between Egypt and the Nile Basin states, adding that this would give an impetus to the Egyptian diplomatic move in the next stage.

In a lecture to the National Defense College at Nasir's Military Academy today on the historical, political, and economic ties between Egypt and the Nile Basin states, Dr Ghali pointed out that the objectives of Egyptian diplomacy in the present and future stages aim to contribute toward resolving all disputes among the Nile Basin states on the basis of brotherhood, mutual respect, goodneighborliness, and nonintervention in domestic affairs, without any foreign intervention, to avoid diverting the area into a zone for superpower struggle.

Continuing, Dr Ghali said that Egyptian diplomacy also aims to consolidate the political, economic, and cultural relations among the Nile Basin states and to make all efforts for setting up a common economic group similar to the EEC, or for setting up a private economic zone to protect the interests of these states which share the Nile River.

Jordan's Interior Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC021544 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1505 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 2 Jan (MENA) — Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and minister of interior, arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 5-day visit to Egypt. During the visit, 'Arar will meet with Minister of Interior Ahmad Rushdi, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and local government minister Hasan Abu Basha.

Brings Message From Husayn

NC021659 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 2 Jan (MENA) — Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister, stated upon his arrival today that he has brought with him an oral message from Jordanian King Husayn for President Husni Mubarak on areas of cooperation and for consultations between them.

The Jordanian minister explained that the restoration of relations between Egypt and Jordan is a natural matter that should not arouse the surprise or astonishment of others; what should provoke surprise and astonishment is for these relations to remain severed. He said the events the area has experienced emphasized the need for Egypt's presence and its influence on these events.

Sulayman 'Arar pointed out that during his visit to Cairo he will discuss numerous matters that concern the two countries in various fields. He will also discuss the means to facilitate Egyptian nationals' travel to and movement and work in Jordan and vice versa.

The Jordanian minister added that he will also discuss with the Egyptian officials the subjects of cooperation that were discussed during King Husayn's meeting with President Mubarak in Cairo and Amman, as well as their directives to take serious and expeditious steps to develop cooperation between the two countries in all areas.

He said: We will set an example of cooperation for every Arab. He said studies are underway to promote cooperation between the two countries to boost Jordanian-Egyptian relations.

Muslim Brotherhood Leader on Islamic Parties

PM021521 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 29 Dec 84-4 Jan 85 pp 34-36

[Interview with Muslim Brotherhood leader 'Amar al-Talmasani by 'Abd al-Latif al-Minawi in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Is there an Islamic movement that can be described as a political movement?

Answer: Islam knows of nothing called politics in the current sense of the word because it is an all-encompassing system of life covering all its aspects, including politics. Abandoning one of its aspects is like abandoning all of them. Islam orders us to be just as rulers; there should be no barrier between the ruler and ruled. On the other hand, Islam orders that peoples should give due respect to the ruler. Interest in politics at present is due to the dangers surrounding the Islamic world. If Muslim Arabs do not unite in their views so as to repel the danger, then we will be overwhelmed by the Jews.

The Muslim Brotherhood, when it was established in 1928, did no more than to call for this aspect of Islam to be emphasized. This was due to the circumstances prevailing in Egypt then. I believe that the Islamic world is experiencing a revival. You may call this an Islamic political trend or an Islamic tide, but it is a feeling that Islam is in need for the people once again to adhere to it. Our youths nowadays are making a total peace with God. Sufficient evidence of this is provided by the fact that the parties that used to renounce the Muslim Brotherhood's views on the need to apply Islamic laws have now, as a matter of policy or out of belief, the implementation of Islamic laws as the first item on

their electoral program. This is what concerns the Muslim Brotherhood members and which make them believe that their return [to the political scene] has succeeded to a large extent. We believe that as regards those who now adopt this view for appearance's sake, the day will come when they will actually believe in it.

Question: Are we to expect the next step by the Muslim Brotherhood to be the establishment of a political party?

Answer: The people accuse the Muslim Brotherhood of being against parties while now they are contemplating the idea of establishing one. If they read the messages of the martyred Imam [Hasan al-Banna] and what the brothers have written, they would realize that we were not against the idea of parties in the first place. The discussion revolved around the methods followed by the parties in exercising political action. If the judiciary rules in favor of our return, then we will return as we were before — an Islamic group advocating the comprehensive implementation of Islam, including in politics. But should we be finally barred from this goal, then we will think deeply of establishing an Islamic party that would advocate what the Muslim Brotherhood is advocating now.

Question: There are numerous Islamic groups in Egypt at present. Sometimes they clash between one another. Is this multiplicity of groups a sign of strength or of weakness?

Answer: Since the inception of Islam we have been accustomed to the multiplicity of views in interpreting the Koran and tradition. The large number of religious groups or associations in Egypt does not harm us. In fact we are pleased by it and consider it as evidence of the people's adherence to God's laws, although the Muslim Brotherhood is distinguished from these groups by its all-encompassing Islamic view. Therefore, we do not believe that the presence of Islamic groups and differences between them is something that harms the Muslim Brotherhood or Islam in general.

Question: Even if matters between these groups themselves and between them and the Muslim Brotherhood should develop into clashes?

Answer: The Muslim Brotherhood is very far removed from violence. The worthy ancestor does not believe in resisting the government by the force of arms, even if it is unjust or iniquitous, because the harm which Islam suffers as a result of disagreement between the ruler and the ruled is more serious than that from the ruler's injustice and inequity.

Question: But there is a point worthy of observation, namely that all the groups that have adopted violence as a method or as a program have basically come from within the Muslim Brotherhood. How do you explain this?

Answer: Unfortunately people look at things superficially instead of looking at the root cause. Why do the young people become violent? If the cause is known then there is no reason to wonder. No other people have experienced what the youths experienced in the jails. Some of them did emerge from the Brotherhood's ranks. Nevertheless, the Brotherhood's leadership and indeed all brothers do not believe in resorting to such methods and denounce them. Attributing the actions of some individuals in these groups to the Muslim Brotherhood is unjust.

The statement by state officials, such as the former minister of the interior, that terror and the terrorist groups did not emanate from the Muslim Brotherhood is sufficient testament. This is an official testament in favor of the Brotherhood. We do not call for, or approve of, terror, but rather denounce it.

Question: What is the form of relationship between the Brotherhood and the Islamic groups active in the arena?

Answer: If you ask those groups they would tell you more than I could. All these groups accuse the Muslim Brotherhood of having abandoned jihad. They interpret jihad as being conflict with the ruler. If this is something to be guilty about then we are guilty. Everybody admits the righteousness and the correctness of the Muslim Brotherhood's method and course.

Question: Do you believe that the existence of a party representing the Muslim Brotherhood could be a safety valve against violence?

Answer: Quite possibly, because all the violent phenomena appeared in the absence of the Muslim Brotherhood. It is true that there have been individual incidents such as the assassination of [late Prime Minister] al-Nuqrashi, but the perpetration by a Muslim Brotherhood member of such a reckless action does not mean that the Brotherhood approves of it.

Question: Forming a government is one of the most important aims of any political party in any society. Will the attempt to reach power be one of the aims of the Brotherhood's political party?

Answer: The Muslim Brotherhood, whether a party or not, is not seeking power for power's sake. But should the public opinion awaken and return Muslim Brotherhood deputies [to parliament] and should these constitute the majority and have the right to rule, then this would be the people's will. But we will not resort to dishonest means in order to reach power; this will not happen because we are not seeking power for power's sake, but because we want to reform government. Whether we do this ourselves or others do it, it is just the same to us.

Question: Don't you think that the existence of a political party based on religion would be a cause for clashes between the minorities in the society and the Muslim majority?

Answer: Islamic laws give maximum protection to the minorities' rights. No minority in any other country enjoys what the minorities in Egypt enjoy.

Question: When the Muslim Brotherhood turns into a political party, will it accept Copts in its ranks?

Answer: This is possible. If we form a political committee or a cabinet there is no objection to the presence of a Coptic member. We choose the fittest to work. For this reason we see that the majority of technicians working in economic companies owned

by the Brotherhood are not Muslims. We look for knowledge and goodness wherever we may find them.

Question: The political forces in the arena call upon you, before you contemplate forming a political party, to lay down a program that will deal with the Egyptian society's pressing problems. Can the Muslim Brotherhood claim that it has such a program?

Question: It is unfair to accuse the Muslim Brotherhood of not having a program and course of action. We have demanded the application of Islamic shari'ah. There is nothing more solid and comprehensive than Islamic shari'ah as a guide for all aspects of life. The people want details. The messages of the late imam have dealt with the issues in all their aspects. All that is lacking here is for the technicians and specialists to lay down the specifics of matters. This does not take more than a few weeks to do, to lay down a program and a method. We all are ready to serve this country.

Question: Do you believe that the present situation in Egypt could lead to the emergence of extremist Islamic groups?

Answer: If the Muslim Brotherhood is given the freedom of action in the country, then you will see that all these groups that you call terrorists will follow the Brotherhood's course and the situation will stabilize. This applies even to the groups that you describe as extremist, on condition that the Brotherhood is allowed back and given the freedom to carry out its usual activities.

Question: Cannot the Muslim Brotherhood operate through the existing political parties at the present time?

Answer; Our enterpring parliament through the Wafd Party does not mean that we have accepted the principle of merging with parties. What is taking place is mere cooperation. We do not merge or amalgamate. We are the Muslim Brotherhood.

AL-MUSAWWAR Discusses Relations With Israel

PM021603 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 14 Dec 84 pp 4-6

[Makram Muhammad Ahmad article: "Peres' Stake on Egyptian-Israeli Relations"]

[Excerpts] Mr Shim'on Peres' successive statements about his intention to improve relations with Egypt would have been more credible had the Israeli prime minister been braver in facing the problems between the two countries and had he taken the initiative to find solutions to problems which, he believes, are very simple and need no great efforts.

But Mr Peres has done nothing more than ask for a summit meeting with President Mubarak, proposing that the meeting be held in a place other than Jerusalem so that he can give the impression that he is more flexible than his predecessor Begin, who used to make it a condition that any Egyptian-Israeli summit meeting should be held in Cairo or Jerusalem, regardless of Egypt's unwavering stand of refusing to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Cairo did not reject the idea of the meeting, but wondered: What use can a Mubarak-Peres meeting in Rafah be, as the Israelis suggest, if there is no common ground for prior understanding on the problems under review? What purpose will their meeting serve if it does not achieve tangible progress in solving these problems, unless the intention is for Mubarak and Peres to meet so that they can smile for the photographers and show the world, without any basis of truth or reality, that warmth has been restored to Egyptian-Israeli relations.

If Peres is eager for such a scene for reasons relating to his international situation, I do not think that anything of this kind would force Mubarak to be untrue to himself simply in order to please the American television photographers while the problems remain unsolved.

Nevertheless, we must hand it to Mr Shim'on Peres that he uses more logical language and cleverer and more civilized terms than those used by his predecessor Menahem Begin and still used by his partner Yitzhaq Shamir. The latter, wanting to spoil Peres' friendly language toward Egypt, stood up in the Knesset to announce that peace with Egypt is contrary to its relations with the PLO and that Egypt must choose between its peace with Israel and its relations with the PLO.

We also owe it to Mr Peres to admit that since he assumed the prime ministership in September, he has not stopped showing enthusiasm for the restoration of warmth to Egyptian-Israeli relations. What can a fair-minded person say about his famous statement at Tel Aviv University when he said on the 6th anniversary of the Camp David agreement that Israel should do all it can to develop its relations with Egypt because this would prepare the climate for expanding the circle of peace.

However, the matter has not gone beyond words. Israel has not done all it can as Peres said. Indeed he has not proved in practical terms the sincerity of his words. He only released trial balloons regarding the possibility of holding a summit meeting with President Mubarak at a time when Egyptian-Arab relations were about to witness a significant development following the restoration of Egyptian-Jordanian relations.

If Peres now admits the wrongful Israeli behavior toward Egypt in the past and if he really sees, as he claims, that the rectification of Egyptian-Israeli relations is an inevitable prelude to a wider and more comprehensive peace, why stop at words? Is this part of the Labor Party's task and its traditional function?

The Labor Party believes that the worst thing to befall Israel during the two terms of Likud government was an ugly and braggart image that relied on brute force and fait accompli and which seriously defied public opinion and the world community.

The party believes that by virtue of its Western heritage, the secular thoughts of its leaders, its long experience in government and politics, and its European background and enlightened culture, it is capable of preserving the same Israeli objectives, but within a framework that is more acceptable to others. Consequently, Shim'on Peres' statements and his enthusiasm for the improvement of relations with Egypt are part of a large-scale cosmetic campaign by which he hopes to conceal some of the

ugliness and arrogance which is unique to Israel. This is probably true as long as Peres is still in the sphere of words and not deeds.

But Mr 'Ezer Weizman, who derives some of his political strength on the Israeli political scene from his enthusiasm for Egyptian-Israeli relations and from Israeli public opinion's belief that he is the person most capable of conducting dialogue with the Egyptians, sees a different reason for these difficulties in Egyptian-Israeli relations. He stresses that most of the difficulties lies in the diaspora complex among the Israelis, their lack of ability to believe in anything, and their strange sense of pleasure in showing hatred toward others. For many years, he says, they have been trying to find ways to talk to the Arabs face to face, and when the moment came they began to be overtaken by fear and elements of misunderstanding. The problem in his opinion lies in the fact that the Israeli personality lacks confidence in itself and has no confidence in others. President al-Sadat, may God have mercy in his soul, also believed in this psychological explanation for the Arab-Israeli conflict, and I believe that 'Ezer Weizman was one of the sources of this belief.

Maybe one aspect of the matter concerns the nature of the Israeli character, its diaspora, and its fears as Weizman said, but certainly we are facing a state that refuses to revise its expanionist policy and its views in the light of the peace experience with Egypt. Indeed we are probably facing a question of differences in concepts stemming from differences in goals. They wanted something from their peace with Egypt, which was hoping for something else.

Egypt believed that its peace with Israel should remain a strategic objective, contrary to what Shamir is saying now. Egypt believed that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty could be an incentive that would prompt the rest of the Arabs to establish an equitable peace with the Israelis because the war and its continuation did not benefit either side.

The Israelis wanted something different from this peace — that it should forever remain a unilateral peace under which Egyptian-Arab ties would be severed and the whole east remain easy prey for the Israelis. For this reason the Israelis have done everything possible to strike at the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and thus strike at the model and example. They struck at it when they struck the nuclear reactor in Baghdad, when they announced the annexation of the Golan, when they allowed themselves to unilaterally apply Israeli laws to Jerusalem and declare it Israel's unified capital, and when they seized Tabah, the strip of land on the Egyptian border in Sinai, and thus undermined the basic principle on which the agreement was based — land in return for peace. They also struck at the treaty with their barbaric invasion of Lebanon and their continuing abominable actions in the occupied territories.

Goodwill toward Egypt should begin with total revision of all these actions, whose negative effects Israel has not escaped itself. If we were to put all these doubts aside and believe that Shim'on Peres really wants warm relations with Egypt in order, at least, to counterbalance the exacerbating economic crisis' worsening effects, which his government seems unable to cope with, can the Israeli prime minister accomplish something in this field with his fragile coalition government?

Obviously Shamir and his colleagues will not enable Peres to accomplish anything in this sphere to prevent Peres' position becoming stronger and thus his party becoming stronger and therefore calling for new general elections in which the Labor Party would win a reasonable majority, under which it could form a government coalition without the Likud.

It is obvious so far that all the parties want to maintain this fragile government coalition, although it has not achieved anything. Peres wants to continue in office, despite opposition from many elements of his party, because he believes that conditions are not suitable for new elections in which the party could win a majority that would enable it to form a more harmonious government.

Begin's Herut Party, which is one of the Likud's wings, does not want to leave the coalition for fear of two things: first the heightening struggle within the Herut Party over the succession to Shamir, the struggle whose principal parties are Ariel Sharon and David Levi, and the Herut Party's feeling that leaving the government would enable the Liberals, the other wing of the Likud, to remain in alliance with Peres.

Therefore, a coalition of this kind is doomed due to its weakness and fundamental differences. It cannot achieve much outside the political contract that was concluded between Peres and Shamir following their long and exhaustive talks for the formation of a coalition government.

Let us look at the simplest problem that need not involve all these complications, the question of Tabah, to see whether Peres, who is bound by the coalition, will be able to make progress in this field.

The Israeli prime minister recently expressed his desire for a quick solution to the question of Tabah as a step toward improving Egyptian-Israeli relations. Cairo strongly welcomed Peres' initiative.

But it is clear now that the Likud ministers will not enable Peres to take effective steps in this respect. Shamir still insists that Tabah should remain a thorn in the side of Egyptian- Israeli relations. For this reason he suggests a long program to delay the solution of the problem. The program begins with direct negotiations between the Egyptian and Israeli sides, then attempts at conciliation, and recourse to arbitration at the final stage. For its part, Egypt believes that the situation does not need such procrastination. If there is a real desire to solve the problem, they should cut things short by going directly to abritration, because direct talks in the past have led to nothing in this respect despite all the supporting evidence, the maps, the witnesses, and the facts that prove that Tabah is Egyptian without question.

What can Peres do while Shamir and the Likud ministers are opposing him? The most that Peres can offer is to go back to an old idea which he knows in advance Egypt will reject, namely the idea of joint exploitation of Tabah.

Peres, Sharon, and all Israel would be wrong if they imagine that maintaining silence over the Tabah question will help in establishing normal relations with Egypt. In the Egyptian conscious mind Tabah has become tangible evidence that Israel has not yet

given up some of its designs on Egyptian territory. However much Peres may go to excesses in talking optimistically about the restoration of warmth to Egyptian-Israeli relations, these statements will remain mere words devoid of any real meaning as long as Mr Peres does not find the courage to take a serious step toward the problem, which Begin created to be Egypt's Achilles' heel, but which instead turned out to be a thorn that bleeds the sincerity of Israel's intentions toward Egypt.

If that is still Shim'on Peres's attitude toward the simplest outstanding problem between Egypt and Israel, it was not surprising to see him in a race with the Likud's hawks to reject the Jordanian initiative which King Husayn proposed as a framework for joint action with the Palestinians aimed at exchanging land for peace on the basis of Resolution 242. It was not surprising to see him hasten to bury the opportunity of negotiations with the PLO, despite the many voices inside the Labor Party that believe in the possibility of direct dialogue with the PLO. But Peres realizes that taking such a step means the end of the coalition.

Peres, who in his election campaign promised a policy different from that of the Likud's, should show good intentions toward the inhabitants of the occupied territories in the West Bank and Gaza. He should have taken steps to alleviate the hardships of the Palestinians under Israeli occupation. But obviously, even in this limited field, Peres takes one step forward and two backward. The Likud policy toward the West Bank and Gaza population is still the keynote and the basis.

Maybe under the pressure of the stifling economic crisis in Israel, Peres has stopped the building of new settlements in the occupied territories, and maybe the crisis has not enabled him to give further aid to the number of settlements which the Likud government hastened to establish prior to the recent elections in order to make things more difficult if the Labor Party came to power.

But obviously Peres' policies toward the West Bank and Gaza are characterized by lack of clarity and instability. Perhaps under pressure from the hawks he will retreat from his temporary stand on the question of settlements, which is basically due to the acuteness of the economic crisis.

If we were to look for one single positive piece of evidence given recently by the Peres government, we would perhaps only find the increasing Israeli feeling of the need to get out of the Lebanese quagmire. Yet the Israeli delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks is still creating obstacles to the Lebanese Army deployment north of the Israeli borders and insists that the Lebanese Army should remain beyond the line of the Al-Litani River so that the river heads will remain under the control of the Israelis and subject to their designs. The delegation still insists that Lahad's separatist forces should protect the border strip adjacent to the Israeli borders and that the strip should remain outside the jurisdiction of Lebanon's official Army. This is unprecedented in history because it means forcing Lebanon to recognize the legitimacy of the separatist forces that are serving nonnational objectives on the Lebanese territory. Lebanon will not possibly accept such a situation which the United Nations opposes and sees as an encroachment on Lebanese sovereignty.

The strangest thing of all is the Israeli whispering behind the scenes that Israel will ask Washington to intercede with President Mubarak, when he visits Washington in March, to improve Egyptian-Israeli relations on the grounds that such an improvement is an essential step in the direction of any comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, and that if Israel cannot settle its problems with Egypt then it will not be possible to reach any settlement with any other party to the conflict.

The argument is essentially correct but the conclusions are entirely wrong.

Yes, rectifying the course of peace with Egypt is considered essential in the direction of any comprehensive peace settlement, but what are the Israelis specifically demanding from Egypt?

They have demanded that Egypt allow them for the fourth time to search for their submarine *Dakaz*, missing with its crew of 50 on the eastern shore of Egypt since the October war. They have also requested the Egyptian authorities' cooperation in looking for the remains of some of the Israeli pilots who crashed with their planes in a valley on Egyptian territory. They have also asked for exorbitant compensation for the waterpipes they left behind in Sinai, forgetting their exhaustion of Sinai oil during the years of occupation.

I do not think that these nonessential Israeli demands are hindering the improvement of Egyptian-Israeli relations. What is hindering this improvement is Israel's attitude toward Egyptian land in Tabah, its actions against Palestinians in the occupied territories, its presence in Lebanon despite the grave exhaustion of its forces there, and its total refusal to take a single step toward solving the Palestinian problem so as to avoid Middle East stability being wrecked by a strong wave of terrorism which is now showing its terrible face in the new form of fedayeen terrorism fed by extremist religious trends on both sides.

I do not think that the Americans, despite their great enthusiasm for warmth in Egyptian-Israeli relations, can ignore these facts.

I also do not think that Egypt, despite its sincere desire to resume dialogue with Israel, sees any benefit if Shim'on Peres remains hesitant and if his stake on Egyptian-Israeli relations remains mere words not based on a real achievement.

Arab Unanimity Based on 'Wrong Formula'

NC021422 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "Arab Solidarity Between Rhetoric and Reality"]

[Text] Jordanian King Husayn is now touring Arab countries in a bid to overcome problems obstructing the convening of an Arab summit conference and to pave the way for a joint Arab move toward all regional issues. We would like to point out that the Jordanian king has enough enthusiasm and persistence to overcome all impediments blocking the road to Arab solidarity. King Husayn carried out several constructive steps in late 1984 toward achieving Arab solidarity. These steps were demonstrated in

restoring full relations with Egypt and in presenting a Jordanian-Palestinian formula to thaw the freeze which is crippling the Palestinian cause.

However, King Husayn's enthusiasm is not enough because the current Arab crisis is not confined to one Arab state, it is, rather, a crisis that affects the entire Arab nation. Hence, every Arab state must participate in the work and with the same enthusiasm.

The formula of Arab unanimity, which now governs Arab decisionmaking, is a wrong formula because it can abort any Arab decision. It has been proven over the past 40 years that Arab unanimity has always been a mirage and a rhetoric of deeply-rooted differences which have so far torpedoed the Arabs' capability to make any serious decision and which have destroyed all opportunities.

Hence, we must realize the fruitlessness of current moves to convene an Arab summit while the Arabs are holding divergent views. We must, therefore, admit the bitter reality which shows that Syria and Libya will not participate in any decisionmaking unless it is in line with their visualization of the settlement method and with their international linkage. Syria does not acknowledge Yasir 'Arafat's leadership and rejects any Jordanian-Palestinian-Egyptian rapprochement. Moreover, Syria and Libya support Iran against Iraq and support Ayatollah Khomeyni's call to overthrow President Saddam Husayn.

Hence, any dialogue with Syria and Libya over the Palestinian and Gulf issues would be a waste of time and effort and an overt mutilation of the Arab image in front of the entire world. We, however, do not intend to drive matters to despair. We, rather, intend to search for the most able methods of instilling hope in Arab solidarity. In this regard, we believe that waiting for all Arab countries to approve the Riyadh summit conference should not be contingent upon the approval of all member states [of the Arab League].

The summit should, rather, convene in the presence of any number of members which believes that current circumstances cannot endure any postponement of this Arab gathering. The decision to invite Egypt to participate in the summit conference should be the first decision because Egypt's absence has never benefited the Arab cause. This absence has weakened Arab capability and has consequently weakened the effectiveness of the Egyptian role.

What prompts us to say this is that the current regional and international circumstances can no longer endure any further division. Israel has almost devoured the West Bank, it has diverted Lebanese waters to its land, and it is now thinking of setting up settlements in southern Lebanon. Moscow and Washington will meet this week to discuss international conditions. Therefore, there is no room for Arab demagogic slogans which can never become a reality.

Saddam Receives YAR Official, Salih Message

JN021912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Jan (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from his brother YAR President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih dealing with bilateral relations and the situation in the Arab region. The message was delivered to his excellency by 'Ali 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bahr, the YAR minister of state and chairman of the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation, who was received by President Saddam Husayn this evening.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, attended the meeting.

Oil Minister Receives Official

JN021249 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 2 Jan (INA) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi met here today with 'Ali 'Abd al-Rahman al-Bahr, YAR minister of state and chairman of the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation, and his delegation.

The two ministers discussed the means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in the field of petroleum and in the exchange of technical expertise.

Communique No 1,699 Reports 1-2 Jan Operations

JN021630 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1546 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Jan (INA) — Communique No 1,699 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With outstanding resolve and capability, our brave Armed Forces are continuing their operations in all sectors of the front against the forces of the defeated Iranian enemy. The following is a summary of operations for last night and today:

1. Our forward units opened fire on enemy positions and personnel east of Basra, scoring accurate, concentrated hits. They destroyed one infantry position, killing or wounding those manning it. The enemy was seen evacuating its casualties. One hardware stockpile was also destroyed and flames were seen rising from it.

2. Using various types of weapons, one of our forward units pounded enemy positions, troops, and vehicles in the central sector, destroying one vehicle and inflicting other human and material losses.

3. One of our forward units carried out violent, effective strikes on enemy positions, vehicles, and engineering equipment in the northern sector of the front, inflicting grave damage on enemy equipment and destroying one excavator and one vehicle.

4. New groups of Iranian soldiers, including a number of Khomeyni guards, sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

5. The spiteful enemy shelled civilian areas in Basra's suburbs with heavy artillery today.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 January 1985

AL-THAWRAH on New Means To Be Used Against Iran

JN031036 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jan (INA) — *AL-THAWRAH* warns the Iranian rulers and says that Iraq possesses means that it has not used yet and which will force them toward peace and toward ending the war.

Under the headline "Iran in 1985," *AL-THAWRAH* says that Iran faces the new year with a mountain of defeats on the front with Iraq, a deterioration of its political and economic situation, and a power struggle among its rulers. *AL-THAWRAH* adds that in theory and in practise the Iranian regime has been toppled as a result of military deafeats and domestic crises, in spite of the fact that Khomeyni is still at the head of this regime.

The paper stresses that in light of the domestic state of affairs in Iran, the new year will not be a good one for the Iranian rulers in view of the circumstances they are experiencing as a result of their recurrent military defeats and the escalation of armed resistance operations against them.

AL-THAWRAH says that the Iranian rulers' insistence on pursuing the war against Iraq will make the latter use the appropriate means, most of which have not been used yet, to force them to accept peace and end the war through negotiations in the interests of Iran itself, as well as in the interest of security and stability in the region.

King Husayn Returns From Saudi Arabia

JN021626 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland this afternoon after a 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia during which he held a series of brotherly meetings with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and senior Saudi Government officials on viewpoints about the current Arab situation, close brotherly relations, and spheres of cooperation and coordination between the two fraternal countries.

His majesty was received by His Highness Prince Muhammad; His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent; the prime minister; the Senate president; the speaker of the House of Representatives; the ministers; senior officials; and the Saudi ambassador in Amman. Returning with his majesty were Army Chief of Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir and Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Muhammad Rasul al-Kilani.

King Husayn Receives Group, Praises Al-Qawasimi

JN021911 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received a delegation representing the citizens of Hebron Governorate in the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon.

The delegation includes representatives of the family of martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi who expressed their thanks and gratitude to his majesty for his kind condolences over the death of their late struggler.

His majesty addressed the delegation and said: The loss is ours because martyr Fahd struggled and paid his life as the price for the Palestine issue, which is also our cause. He added: The deceased fell victim to a cowardly, mean action while he was at the peak of his struggle and service to his family, people, and homeland.

His majesty said that martyrdom has never been strange to the brave sons of Hebron mountain who have never spared their lives for the sake of Palestine and the holy places. He also said: We will continue to stand together with courage, honor, and faith in the inevitability of the success of the right course.

He added: The criminal, sinful hand that assassinated Abu Khalid [Fahd al-Qawasimi] will certainly face the punishment it deserves. This cowardly action was aimed at dealing a blow to all of us, as if it were a blow dealt to us by the enemy which we confront and which exerted every effort to silence the voice of the martyr. When the enemy failed, it expelled him from the arena of direct struggle.

His majesty concluded his speech and wondered: I don't know who should receive the condolences, you or me. Martyr Fahd has been a brother and a comrade to me, just as he has been to you. We see hope and extend profound condolences to you and to his sons.

'Arafat Sends Reply Cable to King Husayn

JN021842 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received the following cable from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat:

His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, may God preserve and support him. With profound feelings and great appreciation, I received your kind fraternal cable, which included the noblest sentiments of solidarity and condolences to us on the martyrdom of our martyr, hero leader Fahd al-Qawasimi, PLO Executive Committee member and elected and deported Hebron mayor. While expressing to Your Majesty my heartfelt gratitude for your sincere feelings and your dignified and generous stand, I would like to assure you that the sinful, muderous hand that killed our hero martyr Fahd al-Qawasimi and the mastermind of this cowardly operation, who is regrettably residing in the Arab capital of Damascus with its rulers, will only increase our conviction in the inevitability of victory and will not affect the determination of our fighters and people to continue the march of struggle and jihad.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Fain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not allow but His light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may detest it. [Koranic verse]

Your Majesty, my respected brother, I hope you will accept our appreciation and gratitude for your noble, courageous stand. We thank your government and your people — our struggling fraternal people — hoping that the joint Jordanian-Palestinian march will realize further firmness, strength, and success in order to serve the aims of the Jordanian and Palestinian people and promote the dignity, glory, and future of our Arab nation.

[Signed] Your Brother Yasir 'Arafat

Italian Ambassador Denies Unilateral Peace Move

JN030825 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 3 Jan 85 pp 1, 4

[By Salamah B. Ni'mat and Sa'ad G. Hattar, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporters]

[Text] Amman — Italian Ambassador to Jordan Fabrizio Rossi Longhi denied Wednesday that Italy was unilaterally preparing for a Middle East peace initiative and said any such initiative would have to be coordinated with European Community (EC) countries.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr. Longhi said: "We must be realistic and exercise our proper weight in the EC in a way that our contribution would bear fruit and not create obstacles."

Mr. Longhi was speaking two days before the scheduled arrival in Amman of Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti for talks with His Majesty King Husayn within current Italian diplomatic moves in the Middle East.

Mr. Longhi told reporters that Mr. Andreotti's visit to Jordan comes as a manifestation of Italy's interest to enhance the Kingdom's efforts towards achieving peace in the region. He said Italy has always contributed to the maintaining of good relations between countries in the area.

"The efforts exerted by King Husayn towards peace in the region has encouraged us to maintain the desire of keeping these efforts alive," Mr. Longhi said. He recalled that the Venice Declaration issued by the EC in June 1980 came during Italy's presidency of the EC.

The Venice Declaration won the support of all Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

He said the current Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and the latest developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas indicate there is a move towards reaching a settlement to the Middle East problem.

The visit of Mr. Andreotti to Jordan comes as "an acknowledgement of the peace efforts" that has been exerted by Jordan throughout the last year, Mr. Longhi told reporters.

Commenting on calls for an international Middle East peace conference, Mr. Longhi said such a conference would have to be properly prepared with the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said that with Mr. Andreotii as president of the EC now, there are chances for a useful European support for a peace initiative spearheaded by Italy.

Within recent Italian diplomatic moves in the region, Mr. Andeotti had accompanied Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi on an official visit to Tunis last month, during which they held talks with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Mr. Craxi was quoted in Tunis as saying that PLO has opted for a peaceful Middle East solution and urged Palestinian leaders to form a common negatiating stand with Jordan.

"The PLO has clearly opted for a political solution in the Middle East and against terrorism," Mr. Craxi said. "There is a will for peace that Israel cannot continue to ignore."

The Italian prime minister, speaking at the end of a two-day visit to Tunisia, said he urged Mr. 'Arafat to draw up with King Husayn "sort of charter... that would be precise, structured and include all aspects of the Middle East situation."

Mr. Craxi, who was pledged to launch a Middle East peace initiative during Italy's presidency of the EC, said a joint negotiating stand would "accelerate the (peace) process."

He hinted Rome might be prompted to recognise the PLO.

On the other hand, Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini who was opposed to the Craxi-'Arafat meeting in Tunis, paid a five-day official visit to Israel last week during which he met with Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and ministers of foreign affairs and defence.

Reports reaching here said Mr. Spadolini was dispatched from Rome "to cool things down" after the recent statements by Mr. Craxi in support of the PLO and sympathising with the Arab cause. Other Italian officials were expected in Israel soon, the reports indicated.

Karami Statement on Weekly Cabinet Meeting

NC021323 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1210 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The weekly Cabinet session ended a short while ago. Following the session Prime Minister Rashid Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Karami] The Cabinet discussed current conditions, particularly the security aspects. We reveal no secret when we say that the implementation of the coastal plan began today through the Internal Security Forces, which will supervise the removal of the armed manifestations, bunkers, and barriers as well as the withdrawal of the gunmen preparatory to the deployment of the Army on Monday.

His excellency the president reviewed what took place at the Damascus summit concerning the issues of liberation and the security and other plans. The Cabinet then discussed the question of kidnapped persons. After hearing a report by the chairman of the factfinding committee about the fate of these persons, the Cabinet decided the following:

1. The factfinding committee will transfer its headquarters to the building housing the Health and Social Affairs Ministry. It has also been decided to provide all the committee's needs for manpower and means of action.

2. A committee representing the parties and functionaries concerned as well as the relatives of the kidnapped persons will be formed. It will convene at the invitation of the factfinding committee to deal with the following matters:

A: The implementation of the Cabinet's decision on the release of the kidnapped persons and fixing a date for handing them over to the factfinding committee in cooperation with the International Red Cross.

B: The carrying out of a thorough search of all places in which it is said there are detainees. Members of the Judicial Police attached to the factfinding committee will prepare reports on the findings.

C: Copies of these reports will be given to the relatives of the kidnapped persons, who have submitted the necessary questionaires; these reports will serve as an official authorized document when necessary.

D: The approval of the principle to increase the penalty for crimes of kidnapping and detention.

E: The approval of the principle of social aid to relatives of the kidnapped persons upon the conclusion of the committee's activities.

[Unidentified Reporter] Regarding the Lebanese-Israeli discussions in Al-Naqurah, reports from Israel today say that there is a change in the Lebanese stance on the UNIFIL deployment. Is there any truth in this?

[Karami] I believe that Israel should be the last to speak in the name of the Lebanese negotiator because it is a party to the issue. We hope there will be a change in the Israeli stand so that we may reach the desired results — the scheduling of the withdrawal of the Israeli occupier from the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

[Reporter] Do you expect the next session to be held on schedule?

[Karami] The session is set for 7 January. We hope that the meeting will take place on this date.

[Reporter] Do you expect a U.S. reply in this regard?

[Karami] No, we are actually proceeding along our drawn-up course. Anyone who wants to help or take any step leading to the desired goal is welcome.

[Reporter] Concerning the crossing points, is there anything specific about their reopening [words indistinct].

[Karami] I do not believe that the relatives of the kidnapped persons would want to continue an action which could harm the country and the citizens, particularly as the public supports their cause and is interested in the release of their sons. Therefore, we hope that the measures which the Cabinet has decided will convince all to show positive cooperation in order to achieve what is good and reassuring to all the people. [end recording]

Reportage on Implementation of Coastal Plan

Internal Security Forces Moving

NC021218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] A security source today told the NATIONAL INFORMATION AGENCY that the Internal Security Forces have begun moving according to the plan and decisions on reopening the coastal road up to Al-Awwali and through Iqlim al-Kharrub. The source said: We have carried out exploratory work on the ground. There are no obstacles or problems to prevent a group of specialist officers from carrying out the appropriate exploratory work. The security source added: Twelve officers are carrying out the exploratory work. Action will be taken at dawn tomorrow, Thursday, to deploy members of the Internal Security Forces according to the plan drafted by the military command for the coastal road and Iqlim al-Kharrub.

RFL: Army, Gunmen Clash

NC021228 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Clashes have been going on since before 1330 today in the Al-Barjawi area between the army and the gunmen from various organizations. The explosions of rockets and machinegun fire are being heard in the area.

Phalangists Fire in Al-Kharrub
NC021322 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The Phalangist forces are continuing their aggression in Iqlim al-Kharrub and maintaining the tense atmosphere by directing machinegun and sniper fire against Al-Mughayriyah from their positions in Majdaluna. The Phalangist forces have also increased their harassment of the residents of Jun, where some houses were reportedly set on fire today.

Meanwhile, the 5th brigade forces opened rocket and machinegun fire on the Ra's al-Nab' line at 1330 today. The Lebanese Forces shelled the Al-Damur area with mortars at 1215 today from their positions in Tallat (al-Hardawsh).

Junblatt Gunmen Firing in Al-Kharrub
NC021509 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] In iqlim al-Kharrub, the (Buhsin) and (Al-Zarut) hills came under shellfire from Junblatt gunmen's positions in Barja. Al-Sa'diyat also came under sniper fire from Al-Damur.

Incidents in Mountain, Beirut
NC021819 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] In the mountain, four mortar shells fell on the army positions in Suq al-Gharb this afternoon. This was followed by bursts of machinegun fire. No casualties have been reported.

The army positions in the Al-Barbir, the Catholic bishopric, and Ra's al-Nab' areas were this afternoon the target of a number of rockets and bursts of automatic weapons' fire from the positions of Hezbollah gunmen on the opposite side.

This afternoon, a hand grenade was thrown near the house of Minister Walid Junblatt in Al-Musaytibah at 'Adil Anis 'Ali Akbar [words indistinct] his vehicle in the area, and wounding him. He was taken to the American University hospital.

Timetable Outlined
NC021944 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Reliable military and security sources said today that the [words indistinct] timetable for the army and internal security forces deployment, under the newly adopted coastal highway security plan, goes as follows:

Today, Wednesday, militias are to assemble their heavy weapons and remove mines from the main coastal road. The man in charge of Internal Security Forces supposed to deploy inside the Iqlim al-Kharrub area of Al-Shuf, Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Karim Ibrahim, was to inspect the area later to make sure that all heavy arms and mines have actually been removed.

Toward Thursday, the Internal Security Force will move in under the command of Colonel Ibrahim to Al-Damur as a first step. From there, an advance party will move on to Iqlim al-Kharrub to explore all the posts where the force is to take up positions. There are six places where Internal Security Forces are supposed to be positioned according to the plan, and their deployment operation will be given 4 days to be completed — from Thursday to Sunday.

Simultaneously with the security forces' deployment, all roads in the area that have been closed will be reopened. On Sunday, [word indistinct] militias will start withdrawing from the Iqlim al-Kharrub. They will include all militiamen alien to the area. At the same time all heavy weapons and ammunition gathered will be pulled out of the area.

Besides the six Internal Security Forces positions in Iqlim al-Kharrub, the army will have regular patrols roaming throughout Iqlim. This, according to well-informed sources, was decided during the latest Damascus summit conference, and is supposed to give the Christian population an extra guarantee of security. The amendment was fought to the last minute by Mr Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party, but was finally adopted after the Syrians sponsored the proposal. Thus, the deployment plan should have been completed by next Monday, provided everything goes well.

Meanwhile, the liaison committee for Iqlim al-Kharrub and the southern coast held a lengthy meeting and followed closely the reconnaissance mission of Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Kharim Ibrahim and officers of the Internal Security Forces. According to reliable sources, discussions also covered the closure of crossings in Beirut and the means of transporting the elements of the security forces through Iqlim if the passages remain closed.

Lebanese Forces Command for Release of kidnapped
NC022223 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Fu'ad Abu Nadir has called for an expeditious release of all the kidnapped and detained Lebanese by all the parties, expressing the Lebanese Forces' readiness on this matter. Dr Abu Nadir expressed his regret that the issue of the kidnapped has transcended its humanitarian political context to a subversive context which is bound to impede the process of exchanging the kidnapped persons as this renders it part of a big political-military game.

He added that the exploitation of the tragedy of the kidnapped aims, at this stage, at impeding the proposed political solutions and thwarting the expected security steps and frustrating the steps that have been taken.

The commander of the Lebanese Forces added that the closure of the crossings between the two sectors of Beirut is regarded as a setback in the security situation in greater Beirut in general and in West Beirut in particular. It also constitutes a challenge to the West Beirut leaders' ability to assert themselves in controlling the streets as well as a challenge to the ability of the Army units in West Beirut to carry out their simplest task.

Meanwhile, the Phalangist political bureau met tonight and expressed its anxiety over the state of insecurity in West Beirut in light of the continued closure of the crossing points and the exploitation of the kidnapped persons issue for negative purposes to obstruct the security process in the capital.

During the meeting, Phalangist leader Dr Elie Karamah expressed his hope that the results of the recent Damascus summit will be translated into security, stability, and further coordination to confront security and political issues.

Dr Jean Ghanim presented a detailed report on the meetings of the Joint Liaison Committee, the task of the security forces, and the manner of their deployment alongside the Army units. Dr Ghanim told the political bureau that the Amal movement has expressed its readiness to secure the crossing points to enable the security forces to move through West Beirut to the coast and Iqlim al-Kharrub.

Minister Joseph al-Hashim also presented a verbal report on the Cabinet's debate on the security plan and the issue of the kidnapped persons, especially those who are detained in Bayt al-Din and whose presence there is not admitted by Junblatt's party.

Syria Reportedly Rejects UN Deployment

NC021816 (clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Voice of the Mountain has learned that, during the summit talks in Damascus, Syria rejected President Amin al-Jumayyil's proposal regarding the deployment of UN emergency forces up to the Al-Awwali. Syria said that the proposal represents submission to Israel.

The radio also learned that the summit talks discussed the booby-trapped cars and explosions in Beirut and mountain areas, and that several members of the Lebanese intelligence apparatus have been arrested. Syrian officials were briefed on the statements and confessions of the culprits and on the identity of those supporting them.

Resistance Carries Out 2 Operations in South

NC021245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] In response to the repressive Israeli actions, the resistance fighters attacked at dawn today one of the positions of the occupation forces in Al-Duwayr township with rockets and machinegun fire. This was followed by shooting for a short period during which flares were used. The occupation forces set up extensive road blocks.

This morning the resistance fighters also attacked with machineguns a Lahd militia position at the (Shuqin) town junction. The enemy soldiers immediately cordonned off the region in order to keep the number of casualties secret.

Resistance Fires Katyushas at Israeli Settlements

NC021446 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] In the south, while the Zionist occupation forces continue to storm the steadfast villages and to detain unarmed citizens, national and Islamic resistance fighters today continued their operations against the Zionist enemy forces, inflicting further losses on them. At 0230 today, a resistance group shelled the settlements of Metulla and Qiryat Shemona with Katyusha rockets. According to information received this morning, columns of smoke were seen rising from the two settlements and ambulances were seen rushing to the scene to evacuate the casualties. Zionist military helicopters made reconnaissance flights over the southern villages near the border with the Zionist enemy, and fired flares. They also deployed patrols on the streets of Markaba, Tallusah, Al-'Udaysah, and other villages in a desperate attempt to find the resistance fighters, who were able to return safely. Resistance fighters also attacked a Zionist occupation forces' convoy on the Al-Ghanduriyah-Mazra'at Hurum road, in the Al-Nabatiyah District, using rockets and automatic weapons. Three occupation soldiers were hit and a vehicle was damaged as a result of this attack.

Explosions in South Cause Israeli Casualties

NC021951 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] According to reports received from the south this evening, a big explosion took place this afternoon on the coastal road in the Al-Sarafand area as an Israeli occupation force convoy was passing. This was followed less than 1 minute later by another explosion. The first explosion completely destroyed an Israeli military truck and killed or wounded about 20 soldiers who were riding in the truck. The second explosion hit a military jeep which was carrying four soldiers, destroying it and wounding the soldiers. The occupation forces then combed the area, sealed off all roads leading to the explosion site, and besiged Al-Sarafand for 3 hours.

Soviet Red Cross Delegation Arrives in Beirut

NC022033 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] A delegation representing the Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Union of Societies, led by Professor Danilov, the first deputy chairman of the union, arrived in Beirut today at the invitation of the Amal movement and Progressive Socialist Party health departments and the Popular Help Society. The delegation will meet with Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and Ministers al-Huss, Birri, Junblatt, and Al-Hashim as well as representatives of the International Red Cross, the Lebanese Red Cross, and the health, cultural, and social organizations. The delegation will also visit Beirut, the southern suburb, the mountain, and the south.

Al-Qawasimi Death Called 'Dangerous Indication'

JN012030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Palestine broadcast from "On the Events" program]

[Text] The assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi has raised many questions and produced much anxiety within Arab and Palestinian circles. The assassination is a dangerous indication of what the Palestinian arena might suffer in the next stage due to Yasir 'Arafat's policy. Currently available information does not allow us to categorically pinpoint the quarter behind Fahd al-Qawasimi's assassination.

However, we should not only attempt to find out the party behind the assassination, but we should also face a problem that is about to explode. 'Arafat's actions, represented by holding his divisive PNC in Amman, faking that council, appointing an illegal and alternative leadership for the PLO, claiming that this leadership speaks on behalf of the PLO, and following a political course that threatens and harms the Palestinian cause, are serious and are bound to cause wider Palestinian reaction in the Palestinian arena.

A people who fought Zionism since the beginning of this century will not submit or accept 'Arafatist deviation. Did 'Arafat and his Central Committee not foresee this situation and this danger when they embarked on their conspiratorial deviationist step? Were they trying to create intra-Palestinian fighting when they embarked on that step? If they failed to realize the danger of their action and if they wanted to create this danger, we believe that their action created another possibility; namely, they are allowing the conspiratorial forces against the Palestinian revolution to tamper with the Palestinian arena and to turn Palestinians against one another.

The Jordanian regime, for example, has an interest in playing such a role because it will achieve more than one goal. The same can be said about Husni Mubarak's regime in Egypt and other reactionary Arab regimes. Israel's Mosad is also interested in exploiting the differences created by 'Arafat to turn Palestinians against one another instead of confronting the Zionist enemy.

Fahd al-Qawasimi's assassination is an alarm, a warning of great dangers that will threaten Palestinian action unless we hasten and find practical formulas which at least may obstruct the hostile forces from achieving their objectives and prevent intra-Palestinian fighting without Palestinizing the conflict in the region or descending to the abyss.

'Arafat Group 'Exploiting' Al-Qawasimi

JN022018 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Palestine broadcast; from "On the Events" program]

[Text] It was clear from Salah Khalaf's speech before the 16th PNC session in Algiers that 'Arafat's Central Committee was moving toward a phase in which it would devote itself to practicing terrorism and subversion in defense of its deviationist political line against nationalist and pan-Arab opposition. At that time, Salah Khalaf spoke about the sharp teeth of his group and weapons that had not been used yet, as well as similar points that hint at the real purpose of his remarks.

It now seems that 'Arafat's clique has come closer to this phase after utterly abandoning the nationalist line. It seems that Fahd al-Qawasimi was no more than a prey for this clique, which will exploit him in moving toward the target it has been planning for years.

The campaign of calumnies and lies now coming from Amman has only one explanation: that those who are politically bankrupt want to conceal their bankruptcy. They also want to conceal the negotiations they have decided to join. The Egyptian foreign minister announced his regime's endeavors to begin negotiations. He also announced that it will be joined by representatives of 'Arafat's line and the Jordanian regime.

They are trying to conceal the treason by committing more crimes. There is no other explanation for what is taking place.

When Al-Sadat committed his treason, he threatened to immerse the forces opposing his treason in blood. 'Arafat and his clique are doing the same.

Government Airlifting Ethiopian Jews

TA031249 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Israel has airlifted thousands of Ethiopian Jews in compliance with a decision adopted by the Begin government and embraced by the current government as well. Officials in Tel Aviv told a REUTER correspondent that the urgency of saving the Ethiopian Jews has increased due to the famine there. Yehuda Dominitz, head of the Jewish Agency Immigration Department, yesterday told the *NEQUDA* organ [the Gush Emunim paper] that most of Ethiopia's 25,000 Jews have already been brought to Israel.

Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that from Ben-Gurion Airport, the survivors were transferred to a camp set up by the Jewish Agency in Ashqelon. Emergency centers for treatment of the children were set up in the Rothschild Hospital in Haifa and the Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem. Some of them have been separated from their parents, while others are orphans. Prof Hayim Hershko of Shaare Zedek said that some patients exhibit symptoms similar to those shown by survivors of the concentration camps following World War II. A special fund to finance the operation of bringing them to Israel has been set in the United States.

Peres Says Exchange Proposal with PLO Stands

TA021241 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister has clarified that the decision to allow Al-Qawasimi's faimly to bring the body for burial in Hebron in exchange for the return of Israel's missing soldiers still stands. In reply to an question by Yosi Sarid, Shim'on Peres explained that the Cabinet based its proposal on a recorded interview with Yasir 'Arafat by correspondent Amnon Kapeliuk, which implies that the PLO is holding eight bodies. Peres said this is not the first time that rumors meant to hurt the missing soldiers' families have been spread.

Yosi Sarid said in response that even an enemy should not be pursued to the bitter end, and we should allow the return of the body of Al-Qawasimi, who should not have been expelled in the first place. Sarid called on 'Arafat to immediately return all the bodies of soldiers held by him; only a person who has lost all human semblance would prevent the burial of the dead, he said. He asked the prime minister not to insist on an exchange deal, but rather to ensure that Israel does what it must from a moralistic and humanitarian viewpoint. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli notes that this is the first time that an oral query has been asked in the Knesset.

Rabin Opposes Local West Bank Elections

TA021442 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1231 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that because of past experience in Judaea and Samaria municipal elections, he is opposed to holding them at present. Only if an Arab mayor is elected anywhere in the Arab countries will there be elections in Judaea and Samaria, Rabin said. We need not be the model for elections in the Arab world, while not a single elected Arab mayor can be found in the whole wide world. Nevertheless, Rabin said that if the heads of the key families in the Arab towns reach an agreement on a mayoral candidate, and if that person agrees and is acceptable to the military administration, he will be able to replace those mayors appointed by the administration.

The defense minister said that politically there is nothing to prevent the establishment of a bank in Judaea and Samaria even tomorrow morning; nevertheless, Israel will insist that the bank be controlled by local residents and not as a camouflage for outside financial activity. He reported that he has recently visited Bethlehem, and approved the investment of $1 million in local projects, which the Bethlehem mayor received as a donation. He replied to a motion to the agenda, submitted by MAPAM Knesset Member Muhammad Watad on political developments in the West Bank.

Rabin on Al-Qawasimi Exchange

TA021653 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin referred to the Al-Qawasimi affair during the Knesset Plenum session noting: We have asked 'Arafat to at least give us information on the fate of the missing soldiers. Our commitment is still valid; if we receive at least information, we will agree to Al-Qawasimi's body being transferred to Hebron. Answering a motion to the agenda by Knesset Member Muhammad Watad of MAPAM on an atmosphere of violence and intimidation in the territories, Rabin said that his policy is still based on continuing the fight against PLO terrorism, maintaining law and order, and giving aid to Arab citizens who want to live in peace.

Netanyahu Arrives For Consultations 1 Jan

TA011745 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1727 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 1 Jan (ITIM) — Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Binyamin Netanyahu arrived today for consultations and a short leave. He told the ITIM correspondent at Ben-Gurion Airport that prior to his departure yesterday he had met with UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart concerning developments in Lebanon.

The ambassador noted that Israel expects to see a practical response to its proposals. "At my meeting it was confirmed that several countries have expressed doubt about whether they really would renew their participation in UNIFIL in April if there is no genuine progress in southern Lebanon by then." Ambassador Netanyahu said several countries might even draw conclusions prior to that date. The ambassador explained to Assistant Secretary General Urquhart that this would primarily be a problem for the Lebanese Government.

Later the ambassador pointed out that Syria's position, which had been negative in the past, continues to be negative in anything involving contacts with it in the United Nations. In contrast

to this, the Soviet Union is taking a neutral position on the Al-Naqurah talks and the positioning of a UNIFIL force and is not expressing any views on these issues, neither in the UN Security Council, nor in other UN forums.

"It is clear from all this that the Lebanese Government and those who support it should give very careful consideration to the significance of the response to Israel's proposals," the ambassador said.

This is the first time that Netanyahu has come to Israel since he entered into office as Israeli Ambassadsor to the United Nations and he summed up his experiences by saying that the post requires "willingness to enter into many fights and even be somewhat injured." However, all in all, the latest General Assembly was positive for Israel. He believes that the impression has been created that several countries have had enough of the patently anti-Israeli approach of the Arab bloc and this was expressed in the overwhelming majority that rejected the Iranian initiative to withdraw Israel's credentials. This is also being felt in other votes, the ambassador said.

Levi Says IDF Must Uphold Security in Lebanon

TA030611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi says that if no agreement is achieved on Lebanon which assigns UNIFIL and the army of southern Lebanon the mission of maintaining security, the IDF will have to continue to fulfill this mission. Lt Gen Levi says that in view of the fact that the Lebanese Army cannot safeguard the south from terrorist infiltration, we should think about our next moves. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal accompanied the chief of staff on his tour of Lebanon yesterday:

[Begin recording][Tal] The renewal of the Al-Naqurah talks next week is accompanied by doubts. The security establishment is hoping for a breakthrough, but on the coastal road — south of the Al-Zahrani River — there is nothing new. Shi'ite terrorism is on the increase here, and from this freezing armored personnel carrier near Al-Sarafand, the political moves seem to be taking place on the moon. Here, between Libbaya and 'Adlun, we count the number of craters created by explosive charges, and remember the wounded.

Lt Gen Levi says that there is no easy solution. He says we must protect the north. There is nobody in Lebanon to prevent terrorist activity. Israel is trying to find alternatives to the presence of the IDF, but so far without success.

[Levi] We want to find alternatives, because we want to minimize our involvement. If this comes about, we will be able to say that we are continuing to safeguard the border without maintaining an IDF presence in Lebanon. If this does not happen, we must be aware of the fact that we will have to continue in this mission without any replacement. I think it will be bad if we all go about with a feeling of dejection, because this will constitute another achievement for the terrorists. I think this is the precise duty of the Army, whether regular or reserves — to carry out security activity, thus allowing movies to be shown in Tel Aviv. [end recording]

Lebanese To Propose Lahd Army Disbandment

TA020632 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Senior Lebanese Government officials will only agree to Israel's demand that UNIFIL be stationed between the Al-Zahrani and Al-'Awwali Rivers on condition that the UN force also deploy in the area extending between the Al-Zahrani River and the international border. Another demand by the Lebanese: In the renewed Al-Naqurah talks, when the talks resume, Lebanon will demand that the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] be disbanded, and will propose that hundreds of ASL soldiers be incorporated in the Lebanese Army. These remarks were made in the B'abda Palace to a delegation of southern Lebanese notables. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht brings the details:

[Begin recording] A delegation of both Shi'ite and Christian administration officials, politicians, and businessmen from southern Lebanon left for Beirut this week to ask a fateful question: What will take place in Al-Naqurah on 7 January? The B'abda rulers did not even try to cover up their intentions: The Israelis want UNIFIL to deploy in the Al-'Awwali region; we, they said, will be willing to meet them halfway, but the building should be erected from its foundations. The original UN mandate stipulates that UNIFIL will help the Lebanese Government extend its sovereignty over the entire Lebanese territory. Marj 'Uyun, Bint Jubayl, Al-Qulay'ah, and Rumaysh are all Lebanese. You want UNIFIL in the north, they said, have it then, but the UN force will begin its deployment from the international border northward.

What about the ASL? the southern Lebanese guests asked. The answer from B'abda: This army runs counter to any principle of Lebanese sovereignty; however, here too, we are prepared for a compromise along the lines of the 17 May agreement. Antoine Lahd's troops will be disbanded and several hundred of his soldiers will be incorporated in a territorial brigade of the Lebanese Army. The emphasis is on their mobilization as individuals and not as organic units.

B'abda believes that Israel will be able to swallow this bitter pill since, unlike the case of the late Major Haddad, Antoine Lahd's personal fate is not at stake here. Therefore, the senior Beirut elements said, we are leaving a door open for the Israelis. Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami reemphasized to his interlocutors: We are not under pressure; we are not in a rush. TheIsraeli threats about a unilateral withdrawal do not impress us. We have nothing to lose. [end recording]

Greater U.S. Involvement in Negotiations Sought

TA030704 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The assessment in Jerusalem is that the talks between Israel and Lebanon in Al-Naqurah will continue beyond 7 January, which was the deadline set by Israel. It is believed that the

Lebanese delegation will present a new position upon the renewal of the talks, a position which will recognize, albeit implicitly, Israel's demand concerning the deployment of UNIFIL following the withdrawal of the IDF. Assistant UN Secretary General Brian Urquhart said this week to Israel's Ambassador in the United Nations Binyamin Netanyahu that the failure of the Al-Naqurah talks will bring about the disbandment of UNIFIL. Urquhart promised that the United Nations will help in trying to overcome the crisis in the talks. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports about this possible development:

It looks as though the Lebanese Government is going to save Israel some difficult decisions, at least for a few weeks. All the signs indicate that next Monday the Lebanese delegation will appear in Al-Naqurah with some kind of new position which will prevent a crisis in the talks. Political sources in Jerusalem believe that the Syrians and the Lebanese now want to preserve the framework of the Al-Naqurah talks. It is still not clear whether they also want these talks to end eventually, or whether these negotiations will continue to drag on until a new Israeli ultimatum is presented. Political moves are stepping up as next Monday's meeting is drawing near: UN representative Jean-Claude Aime will arrive here tomorrow; this week UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart met with Israeli Ambassador Binyamin Netanyahu. Urquhart warned that if the Al-Naqurah talks end without an arrangement, UNIFIL will have to be disbanded. Four countries have already announced that they will leave UNIFIL if it transpires that there are no chances for a political arrangement. The assistant secretary general told the ambassador that this development causes concern in the United Nations. Urquhart himself will come to our region for a round of talks in approximately 10 days.

As for a new American move and the possibility of sending a top presidential envoy to the region, Jerusalem sources believe, on the basis of contacts held with the United States over the last 2 weeks, that Washington will not send a new envoy to the area unless Israel presents a new attitude vis-a-vis the Syrians. The Americans have lately said that the political process is preferable to a unilateral move. They also said that the present Israeli position is not acceptable to the Syrians, and will not be so in the future. There are those in Jerusalem who claim that Israel must consolidate a new plan which would award a political or military achievement to the Syrians, such as, for example, allowing the Syrian Army to occupy strategic points such as Jabal al-Baruk and the Al-Qir'awn Lake area. In the present political situation, there are slim chances for this plan to be accepted, and there are also slim chances for a new American move.

This, then, is the situation at present: President Al-Asad has apparently agreed to allow President al-Jumayyil to present a new position in the military talks. Jerusalem still hopes for a more active U.S. involvement in the negotiations with the Syrians. Meanwhile, the prime minister and the defense minister have consolidated a joint proposal for a withdrawal to an interim line in southern Lebanon, in the event that Israel will have to take a unilateral step as early as this month. The only point which remains to be clarified in this joint proposal is whether the government will also set a timetable for further withdrawal or further decisions, following the first withdrawal.

Italian Tourism Minister Arrives on Visit

TA311227 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1210 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 31 Dec (ITIM) — Italian Minister of Tourism Lelio Lagorio arrived early this morning for a 5-day visit as the guest of Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, who received him at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Most of the discussions between the two ministers will be held on the issue of decreasing the expensive fares of flights between Tel Aviv and Rome; cooperation in both countries' marketing to other countries, primarily the United States and Japan; and the possibility of Italian investments in development and tourism projects in Israel.

This was reported earlier by the director general of the Italian Tourism Ministry, (Rocco Mocia), who arrived from Rome on Sunday evening.

The Italian minister of tourism, who is also in charge of sports and culture, came from Egypt. During his visit he will also meet with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Tourism Relations Discussed

TA011129 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Italy and Israel will sign an agreement tomorrow on the establishment of a charter flight route directly linking Ben-Gurion Airport and Milan. The two countries will also sign an agreement on low and equal fares for Alitalia and El Al. Our correspondent Yosi Qoren reports that Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir and his Italian guest, Lelio Lagorio, this morning began talks to strengthen bilateral tourism relations. The Italian minister told our correspondent that the very fact that he is visiting Israel carries political signficance, indicating support for Israel.

Film Deal Signed

TA021742 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1725 GMT 2 Jan 85

["Announcement by the Industry and Trade Ministry" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 2 Jan (ITIM) — Industry and Trade Minister Mr Ari'el Sharon met with Mr Lagorio, the Italian minister of tourism, who is currently visiting here. The meeting was held after the signing of an Israeli-Italian film coproduction agreement. The agreement guarantees joint productions be given the same full government support granted by each government to its national film industry. The agreement also mentions an exchange of information and various waivers of regulations in connection to the two countries' film industries.

In a meeting, the two ministers discussed issues of cooperation between their film industries.

Lagorio on 'Arafat Meeting

TA021827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] In their meeting in Tunis, Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi was unable to obtain any explicit pledge by Yasir 'Arafat about peace moves with Israel. 'Arafat was only prepared to use generalizations. This was stated today by Italian Tourism Minister Lelio Lagorio, in a meeting with his counterpart [as heard] Yitzhaq Shamir in Jerusalem. He claimed that Italy's Middle East policy has not changed, and the meeting with 'Arafat was intended only to examine his views and intentions.

Our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that Italian sources have said that the dispute between Rome and Jerusalem over the meeting between the Italian prime minister and 'Arafat has been resolved. Shim'on Peres will hold his visit to Italy either next month, or in 2 months.

Further Disturbances Reported in Gaza Strip

TA021658 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1615 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Gaza, 2 Jan (ITIM) — A group of school children from the Khalid Ibn Walid school in the Al-Mu'azzi camp in the center of the Gaza Strip demonstrated this morning along the main road crossing the Gaza Strip, and set two tires on fire as well. The students marched toward the Al-Nusayrat refugee camp, but the security forces arrived and dispersed the demonstration. There were no arrests.

Meanwhile, ITIM reports that a demonstration was held in the refugee camps near Dayr al-Balah, and children threw stones at Israeli cars. Eight of them have been apprehended and will be tried during their detention.

Cabinet To Hear Bank Commission Proposal 6 Jan

TA021717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reported a few minutes ago that the Cabinet has already made arrangements to bring a proposal to establish a state commission of inquiry before the ministers on Sunday, at the Cabinet session. Our correspondent adds that many ministers are hoping that by then the heads of the banking system in Israel will have resigned.

Ministers Call for Commission

TA031027 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] In a ministerial consultation convened by the prime minister, it was decided that an inquiry commission should be set up to investigate the bank share collapse. This will be the recommendation given to the Cabinet next Sunday.

Eight ministers took part in the consultation, among them the vice prime minister, the finance minister, the economics and planning minister, and the justice minister.

Following the consultation, Justice Minister Moshe Nisim said that the main question will be the authority granted to the commission, rather than who will appoint it. He was reacting to the stand taken by the state comptroller against a government-appointed commission.

In regard to remarks attributed yesterday to the attorney general that the heads of the administration are suspected of having committed criminal acts, Minister Nisim said that the Likud government had no connection with the bank shares. He emphasized that another thing examined was whether Bank of Israel and Treasury officials were connected with the sale of shares before the collapse, and that a report to this effect was not true. The justice minister announced that the attorney general will probably publish a denial on this issue today. He also said that the attorney general will also publish an announcement concerning bank officials, but refused to add any more details. The justice minister was speaking with our correspondent Tzvi Lidar.

Air Force 'Fears' Jordanian U.S.-Made F-16's

TA011613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] The Air Force fears an increase in the threat to Israel if Jordan receives sophisticated F-16 aircraft from the United States. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that Israel is making attempts to dissuade the U.S. Administration from its intention to supply Jordan with such aircraft.

Signs of PLO Moderation Said Being Ignored

TA021535 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 2 Jan 85 p 14

[Article by Ziyad Abu Ziyad, editor of the East Jerusalem *AL-FAJR*, entitled: "Al-Qawasimi's Assassination — A Warning to Peace-Lovers"]

[Text] The assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi has caused amazement among many Palestinians in the occupied territories and elsewhere. They were surprised not by the fact that one of the PLO Executive was assassinated, but by the fact that the assassins chose him in particular. The conditions created in the Palestinian arena following the PLO's departure from Beirut and Tripoli and the convention of the PNC in Amman, and the events which preceded or accompanied these developments, left no room for doubt that assassination attempts on PLO leaders are to be expected.

Since Al-Qawasimi's expulsion from Hebron, he has turned into a traveling ambassador of the PLO, touring various capitals in the East and in the West, explaining the sufferings of his people under Israeli occupation, and its aspirations for freedom and independence. His contribution was great, and was favorably viewed by his people on their various political trends.

The surprise came from the fact that Al-Qawasimi was the target. It was unjust to answer his contribution by depriving him of his right to live, and to use weapons against a person who never armed himself with weapons and who did not even have a bodyguard.

Up to 2 weeks prior to the PNC convention in Amman, Al-Qawasimi believed that the Israeli authorities would allow him to return to Hebron; indeed, until that time he avoided any action which might have blocked the attempts of his family in Hebron to allow him to return home. In any event, it appears that Al-Qawasimi was not personally chosen as a target for the assassination, but was rather chosen only due to operational considerations. He was an easy target: unarmed, without a bodyguard, and the terrain around his residence allowed for almost certain escape.

Nevertheless, the question remains: Who was behind the assassination?

It is difficult to put the blame entirely on the Syrians. On the other hand, they are not to be excluded from the circle of suspected elements. 'Arafat's deputy, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], who is the strongman in the PLO, unequivocally blamed the Syrians. It is hard to say whether he bases his accusation on intelligence information or only on conclusions drawn from an analysis of the situation and its background. Syria has tried to depose 'Arafat, and it expelled his forces from the Lebanese Al-Biqa', and later also from Tripoli. It supported the PLO rebels, encouraged the organizations who opposed 'Arafat's visit to Cairo as well as his general political line, which appeared to be in the direction of a political solution coordinated with Jordan and under the auspices of the United States.

The Syrians used every means available to foil the PNC convention in Amman. However, 'Arafat managed to overcome all the obstacles, to convene the PNC, and to prove his legitimacy as the PLO leader who enjoys the support of the majority of its institutions. 'Arafat demonstrated the independent will of the Palestinians. He appointed an executive and acted according to the majority's decision, and not according to the consensus. [sentence as published] It should be noted that despite the rather obvious threats of those who act under the protection of the Syrians — especially the "National Alliance" — one should not discount the possibility that the murder may have been the doing of other factors who took advantage of the inter-Palestinian conflict for personal gain or to deepen the rift between the Palestinians themselves, or between them and the Syrians.

The Israeli reaction caused disappointment tinged with scorn in Palestinian streets. Israel continues to ignore the Palestinian people and its national problem. It ignores the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the developments taking place in it, and continues to avoid the need to regard seriously the efforts to obtain real peace.

The terror which struck down Al-Qawasimi is not Palestinian terror. On the contrary, it is aimed at preventing the maturation of the Palestinian people and its sincere desire to find an honorable solution to the problem.

Instead of indulging in talks about "the Palestinian terror", Israel must understand that the trend of moderation in the PLO and the Palestinian people will not go on indefinitely. It is worthwhile to open our eyes and see the new conditions in the arena of the conflict before it is too late. The assassination of Al-Qawasimi must ring some alarm bell among the seekers of just peace on both sides.

Arabic Broadcast on Husayn's Proposals to PLO

JN021600 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 2 Jan 85

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Dear listeners, Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser Hani al-Hasan has declared in Amman that the PLO will submit its reply next week to the proposals that King Husayn made during the PNC's recent session in Amman. Under these proposals, the king called on the PLO to accept Security Council Resolution No 242 as a basis for a joint Jordanian- Palestinian action to bring about peace in the Middle East.

We do not think King Husayn is impatiently awaiting the PLO's reply, because Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and his organization's "Abu's" announced during and after the Amman PNC session their rejection of Resolution 242, thereby undermining the basis of King Husayn's proposals. Hani al-Hasan himself stressed that rejection yesterday.

In fact, no informed observer believed for a moment that King Husayn could be so naive as to expect 'Arafat and his organization's Abu's to agree on his proposals regarding Resolution 242. In other words, King Husayn knew in advance that the Abu's of 'Arafat's organization would reject the proposal which he submitted to the PNC.

The question that springs to mind is: Why did King Husayn make his proposal? We do not want to say that this issue and King Husayn's other moves in past weeks can be explained by the King's continued double-dealing and maneuvering between the existing or shifting axes and currents in the Arab arena in particular, and in the international arena in general. We do not want to say this, nor do we want to say that King Husayn will continue the policy of fence-straddling, and that his visible and covert moves are mere posturing.

We, as well as all peace-loving people, hope that the impression left by King Husayn's moves the past few weeks — that he is preparing the appropriate circumstances for his coming to the side where the forces of good and peace exist — is not a mirage.

Druze Not Allowed To Fight With Kin in Lebanon

TA021453 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1442 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The government will not permit Druze youths to depart for Lebanon to fight along with their brethren there. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that in a letter Prime Minister Shim'on Peres sent Shinuy Knesset Member [MK] Zaydan

'Atshah, he said that any sectarian or partisan activity — even if on a voluntary basis stemming from sincere feelings of kinship and solidarity — is forbidden, and harmful. Later on, Peres wrote that when the Israeli Government discusses the overall Lebanese issue in the near future, it will bear in mind the request of the Druze as well.

MK Zaydan 'Atshah had approached the prime minister in writing a few weeks ago, and informed him that many Druze youths are prepared to cross the border immediately and fight together with their kinsmen against the Phalangists. 'Atshah also wrote that the Druze will not be able to sit back with their arms folded and observe what he called the actions of the Phalangists against the Druze in Lebanon.

Four IDF Soldiers Wounded Near Tyre 2 Jan

TA021711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Four IDF soldiers were wounded northeast of Tyre this afternoon, and were evacuated to the hospital. The IDF spokesman reports that they were wounded near the village of Shabriha, when a bomb planted at the side of the road was activated as an IDF convoy passed by. Light weapons fire was also directed at the convoy. The IDF is searching the area.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that this morning terrorists activated a bomb at the shoulder of the road when an IDF truck was driving near the mouth of the Al-Zahrani River. No one was hurt.

Court Issues Show Cause Order in Kahane Case

TA020934 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0740 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The High Court of Justice issued an *order nisi* against Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hilel in response to an appeal by Knesset Member [MK] Meir Kahane. The order instructs the Knesset speaker to show cause why he did not place on the Knesset agenda three draft resolutions submitted by Kahane. Thus, Kahane's appeal was partially accepted.

Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar reports that in this morning's hearing before three judges, Kahane's attorney withdrew another part of the appeal in which he requested that the High Court of Justice instruct the Knesset speaker to transfer to one of his deputies all his duties as speaker which involve Kahane's activities as an MK, because Hilel is influenced by his personal opinions. The Knesset speaker has to respond to the appeal before the High Court of Justice within 45 days.

OAU Chief on African Accomplishments, Prospects

AB312054 Paris AFP in English 1529 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Dec 31 (AFP) — Secretary general of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Peter Onu, today praised Africa's leaders for giving the grouping a new lease on life this year by putting the controversial Western Sahara conflict behind them and turning to the continent's considerable economic and social problems.

In his new year's message, Mr Onu praised in particular the "unique demonstration of solidarity" shown by Africa's leaders in 1984 which he said had given the pan-African body a "rebirth" after three years of paralysis due to internal differences over the Saharan issue. This was a reference to the successful session of the 20th OAU summit here in November, during which the Polisario Front which has been battling Morocco for control of the Western Sahara was formally seated as the OAU's 51st member state. That decision led Morocco, a founding OAU member state, to pull out of the organization, while one of its supporters, Zaire, suspended its participation at the summit. Mr Onu, who was reappointed as interim secretary-general when the Addis Ababa summit failed to choose a successor, said he hoped this "regrettable action" was only temporary.

Morocco has consistently opposed, along with some 18 of its supporters within the OAU, the controversial admission of the Polisario-proclaimed Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR) in February 1982. That decision led to a crippling split in the organization, and only a Nigerian decision to recognize the SDAR at the 20th summit helped tip the scale in favour of its formal seating. As a result, "the OAU is now on full course", Mr Onu said, and "Africa is justifiably proud of the outcome of the (20th) summit."

Though he acknowledged that the conflicts in Western Sahara and Chad, which has been ravaged by a 20-year civil war, had not gone away, Mr Onu said the move nonetheless had paved the way for Africa to shift to other priorities. The secretary general described these as drought and desertification, the economic crisis and the struggle to liberate the entire continent.

On drought, Mr Onu proposed the immediate setting up of a "save the African fund" as a follow-up to the decision of the 20th summit to establish a special fund for drought and famine in Africa. He went on to appeal to OAU members and the international community to contribute to the fund. It was cruel to let men, women and children die because they had nothing to eat or drink "when many of us have more than enough even for our pets", he said.

On the economic crises, Mr Onu spoke of key problems as being the collapse in world commodity prices, the sharp increase in protectionism against African exports, soaring external debts and bank interest and violent fluctuations in exchange rates. The interim secretary-general called on African nations to pull themselves out of these difficulties by intensifying national and subregional efforts and implementing the 1980 Lagos Plan of Action, seen as Africa's development blueprint until the year 2000.

On the struggle for liberation in southern Africa, Mr Onu cautioned against a mood of laxity, describing South Africa as the continent's "most formidable enemy". He urged more substantial African and international support to the struggle against the apartheid regime and rejected the insistence by Pretoria and the United States on linking Namibian independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

On international issues, Mr Onu reiterated the OAU's support for a proposal to call an international peace conference, under UN auspices, to restore peace in the Middle East and grant the Palestinians a homeland. He lashed out against Israel, both for what he termed its "inhumane policies of repression and genocide against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories" and its involvment along with unnamed Western powers to help South Africa acquire nuclear arms.

Further on Onu Message

EA312247 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] Dr Peter Onu has said that during the coming European new year, Africans must unite and work hand in hand more than ever before, courageously, to win new victories and achieve results in order to resolve the problem hanging over the continent and situations which have become obstacles to development.

That is what Dr Peter Onu, the OAU interim secretary general, said in a message marking the European new year starting tomorrow. Dr Onu noted in his message that 1984, which ends today, according to the European calendar, was a year of famine, mass death, and serious problems for the majority of African countries, but it was also the year in which governments and leaders performed a great role to strengthen the OAU on a new footing and to protect the organization's existence, which was being challenged.

Dr Peter Onu said there are many burning issues facing the OAU. One of them, to which the OAU is devoting great attention, is that of the continent's total liberation. Dr Peter Onu pointed in his message that the messacres, imprisonment, and detention being perpetrated by the oppressive racist Pretoria regime in Nambia and South Africa against national liberation movements and innocent people had served to further step up the armed struggle in the area. He urged the world's antiapartheid forces to increase material and cash support for Namibia and the South African people through their national liberation fronts. The idea held by Pretoria and Washington that Cuban troops must leave Angola before Namibia independence is a stubborn attempt to link two completely unlinkable issues and a conspiracy to perpetuate the racist regime's existence. But the Namibian people are undeterred in their determination to excise Pretoria's oppressive regime once and for all from Namibian territory through its sole legal representative, SWAPO, Dr Onu said.

ALGERIA

Oil Minister Explains Stance at OPEC Meeting

LD311616 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Excerpts] The 72nd ordinary OPEC conference ended yesterday in Geneva without responding to the attempt by all its members, particularly some that were very concerned, to preserve the unity of the organization in a difficult international situation. Algeria, through Mr Belkacem Nabi, our minister for chemical and petrochemical industries, expressed reservations on the decision relating to price differentials of crude. It is the same for Nigeria, but, it appears, for entirely different reasons, as is explained by Mr Belkacem Nabi in an exclusive interview for Channel Three:

[Begin recording] [Nabi] In fact, to be precise, there was a proposal concerning price differentials which was made by Saudi Arabia; it was of increasing the price of heavy crude and reducing that of the extra light crude, in other words, to increase the crude exported by certain Gulf countries, and to reduce the crude exported by the African countries and the emirates.

Even if this proposal were to bring about a reduction of the returns, of Algeria's revenue, and an increase at the same time of the revenue of Saudi Arabia, it could have been considered and possibly have formed the basis for a compromise if it had had some chance of reflecting reality as it is today on the international market, which is not the case. This is why this decision in the end, while still leaving the problem whole, could result in nothing but disadvantages. It is for this reason that Algeria did not want to follow other countries, such as the emirates. Certain Asian countries will not apply that decision, which in the final analysis is not a compromise, but a surrender, which, in consequence, discredits rather than serves OPEC. Algeria does not want to join in a decision that discredits an organization which is very dear to us.

[Unidentified reporter] These decisions related to the price differential for crude are a maneuver, as you yourself have noted, and a measure that could not be justified by the current state of the world oil market. The harmful arguments put forward by certain Gulf countries are inadmissible, are they not, Mr Nabi?

[Nabi] In fact there is no valid reason that was [word indistinct] certain of the promoters of this project even went as far as to give a figure for the referent price to the large number of journalists and oil companies representatives who were present at the site of the meeting that is lower than the current level. In other words, all things considered, there were perhaps ulterior motives, and due to this because [words indistinct], there is no valid argument today to justify a reduction in the price of a barrel of oil. If OPEC wants to increase its (?credibility), if the member countries want to defend their legitimate interests — this can be done without any problem — it is better to keep or even increase the prices of the crude marker rather than reduce the price of the light oil and increase in a very appreciable way the price of heavy oil.

The result of this solution is that a country like Algeria will not see its revenue decrease, even if it does not rise. The exporters of heavy and medium crude will see their revenue increased and the increased cost of the price per barrel for the consumer countries will be fairly bearable as it will be marginal.

Instead of this solution, the solution that has been proposed is of decreasing the revenue of the exporters of extra light crude and increasing the revenue of the exporters of heavy crude, maintaining the average cost of the barrel exported to the industrialized countries, maintaining the average cost of the barrel at the expense of the light crude exporters; this was unacceptable to Algeria. [end recording]

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Urges Egyptians To Topple Mubarak

LD021757 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Tripoli 2 Jan (JANA) — Jamahiriyyah television last night transmitted the statement made by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, to Palestinian students on the occasion of the outbreak of the Palestine revolution.

The brother leader urged the Egyptian Army and the Egyptian people to topple the regime of Husni Mubarak because this regime is committing the worst treason, namely recognizing the Zionist enemy and adhering to the treacherous Stable David accords.

King Fahd Sends Reply To Al-Qadhdhafi OPEC Letter

LD021851 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1825 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli 23 Jan (JANA) — The leader of the revolution has received a written message from King Fahd in reply to the letter sent by the brother leader about OPEC and coordination of oil policies among its members.

Letter Given to Al-Asad on Palestinian Action

LD021811 Tripoli JANA in English 1741 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rabi Thani 11, January 2, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY — JANA learnt that the hand written letter which was handed by Staff Major Jallud to Syrian President al-Asad last night is concerned with Palestinian action, the gaps facing this action, the crisis in Lebanon, as well as the crisis of Arab action as regards Arab unity and liberation.

Niger Envoy Delivers Message on Cooperation

LD022151 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison received this evening in Tripoli Brother Hakim Alio, the Niger undersecretary for foreign affairs, who handed him a message from the Niger minister of foreign affairs concerning the development of cooperation between the two countries.

SWAPO's Sam Nujoma Praises Libyan Support

LD022147 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison received this morning in Tripoli Mr Sam Nujoma, chairman of the South-West Africa People's Organization.

During this meeting they discussed developments concerning the independence of Namibia. Sam Nujoma praised the continuous and unlimited support which the Jamahiriyah offers to the struggle of the people of Namibia and to all the liberation movements on all continents.

SUDAN

People's Assembly Committee on Independence

JN311752 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Dec (SUNA) — The committee of the People's Assembly commissions issued a statement this morning on the 29th anniversary of independence. The statement asserts that independence in Sudan's history was the result of past generations' efforts, struggle, and sacrifices. The committee noted that our generation is responsible for preserving this independence.

The statement says that political independence must be followed by economic independence which liberates the nation's will and achieves well-being, prosperity, and development. The statement asserts that the Sudanese masses are ready to offer more sacrifices, to exert all efforts, and to give their support in order to achieve their objectives because they believe in their revolution which inspires the masses' objectives and aspirations.

The committee called on the brothers who deviated from the unity of will and ranks to fear God, not to become pawns in the hands of those who want to destroy and fragement Sudan, and to resort to dialogue as a method to solve all differences and achieve unity and peace.

SPLA Radio Questions Numayri's Dialogue Call

EA311925 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Text] We now bring you Kuku Afandi's letter, presented to you by Comrade (Marun Bit Kat).

During Christmas, Numayri said in his speech: I want the brothers who are bearing arms to lay them down so that they can come and take part in the national dialogue which is now in progress.

Brave words, but where is this national dialogue, and with whom? The release of Sadiq al-Mahdi and others from prison — is this the national dialogue? You have set up the courts; people know why [words indistinct]. They know you seized him in his house, with his children, little children--they had no weapons. They had nothing. You said: There is a coup attempt. Gentlemen, can one start a coup from one's own home without weapons? (?This is strange).

Then there was the famine in the west. People came to you in the capital. Instead of solving the problem you captured (Philip), some Nubians and their southern relatives. The usual word to describe them is racists. All this you do so as to divert the people's attention from the problem. Even if you do not say there is a national dialogue, people want to have a dialogue with you. [sentence as heard] The people you want to have dialogue with, who are they and where do they come from? What about the Nubians, the westerners, and the southerners? And what about those people you take to court? What have they stolen? What is their crime? [Words indistinct] Why are power and authority forbidden to others yet lawful for you?

You people of Numayri, you who dominate in Khartoum, have you ever asked yourselves why the Nubians and the westerners want to stage a coup? The senior people of [word indistinct]. Shall we now leave those who work as servants in houses and those who live in caves, to govern? Well, isn't Sudan ours, doesn't it belong to all of us? If you have the right to rule, they too have a right to rule.

You have 26 ministers from one area. What does that mean? Naturally you will say: There is no racism, there is no tribalism. Racism to you means only Nubians, westerners, and southerners. [Words indistinct] they caught people in their houses — westerners, southerners, and Nubians. You say these are racists. Are you not ashamed of what you say when you talk about a national dialogue?

As we have said before, we have not taken up arms just because of the south. The bearers of arms are not only southerners. [Words indistinct] in the regions of hunger and thirst, the regions of ignorance and disease — that is, we of the backward regions. [Word indistinct] every Sudanese feels Sudan belongs to him. There are no first class citizens, and others of a second third and fourth class. Everyone should feel respected. His words should be respected: Even if he is a foreigner, his culture should be respected.

Call for Dialogue Rebuffed

EA011745 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 1 Jan 85

[(Marhon Bek Kat) commentary: "What Dialogue Is This?"]

[Excerpts] What dialogue is this, praise be the Lord who keeps changing the human condition? What a wonder that the dictator of the latest age, Numayri, asks the opposition to lay down its arms and resort to what his regime calls dialogue. It is a wonder without equal. This is the same Numayri who used to flex his muscles and strike the opposition with force on the streets of Khartoum, Juba, Atbara, Kosti, and other Sudanese towns.

Field Marshal Numayri, who destroyed Aba completely and exterminated its citizens and perpetrated a number of massacres against the opposition, he is wonderful this man Numayri.

Numayri, who used to send invitation cards to people to attend hanging ceremonies of members of the opposition. How can Numayri ask the Sudanese opposition and the SPLA to lay down their arms when they have experienced from him oppression and suffered torture in his prisons and detention camps? How can Numayri forget all this and ask them to take part in dialogue?

How can one enter into a dialogue with Numayri, the murderer? How can one have dialogue with him when he is carrying a poisoned dagger with him all the time. The SPLA is more capable than anyone of understanding the meaning of national unity because we know more than anyone the consequences of war and the meaning of unity and peace. How can Numayri then ask us to commit ourselves to the unity of Sudan and to the principle of affiliation to nationalism?

He more than anyone knows that these are the very core of our principles from which we cannot deviate. But what Numayri means is not affiliation to the homeland but affiliation to his regime and his flimsy authority.

There can be no dialogue between us and him until his corrupt and oppressive regime is eliminated.

SPLA Radio Criticizes Numayri's Speech in Juba

EA011737 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Yesterday the head of the May regime, Ja'far Numayri, was in Juba to address the nation on the 29th anniversary of the country's independence from Britain and Egypt and, as expected, Numayri's visit was not announced until the world learned of his presence in Juba after he had left. In November last year, Numayri [word indistinct] to Malakal, the capital of Upper Nile, now nicknamed SPLA-Land because of virtual control of this province by the forces of the SPLA.

In his speech at Juba, Numayri was able to point out some of the many problems either created or aggravated by his regime. Since 1972, the year when a limited regional autonomy was introduced to the south, Numayri has ruled the south by encouraging tribal differences in the south. This took an institutionalized form in 1983 when the south was brought under a tribally based system in which provinces have been turned into what the system calls regional government which are in reality tribal governments.

Yesterday Numayri publicly acknowledged that the supporters of his system in the south prefer to work for personal benefits and that they resort to tribalism as their way of governing the south. We in SPLA-SPLM say it serves him right that the machinery he created in 1983 is now plaguing him.

Numayri also admitted in Juba that schools in the south were not functioning because of lack of food for the schoolchildren and students. Numayri said nothing about the closure of schools in Bahr al-Ghazal and Upper Nile because the students and their teachers are among SPLA fighters. Another problem Numayri said existed in the south was unemployment and promised jobs for unemployed youths.

We in SPLA-SPLM say there are thousands of unemployed Sudanese in west, east, north, and central Sudan. Where are they in this scheme? Nobody should be deceived by this cheap attempt to fool the south and pull it away from the national struggle. In Juba Numayri repeated his call that the forces fighting his regime should abandon armed struggle. We in SPLA-SPLM shall cease fighting when Numayri's system have all been dismantled and thrown into history's dustbin.

SPLA Rejects Negotiations via U.S. 'Agent'

LD011603 Tripoli JANA in English 1411 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Burr, Rabi Thani, 10, January 1, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — An official in the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) said hireling Numayri asked an American agent called Terry Rowlands to talk to the SPLA leadership. Rowlands, an American businessman, the source added, brought suggestions from hireling Numayri offering the SPLA leaders posts in his regime in return for stopping attacks on the regime's forces and their march on new cities. One of these suggestions is offering Dr John Garang the post of assistant president and his promotion to a major and a governor of the south region, after the uniting of the south provinces and giving six of the SPLA leaders posts in the government in Khartoum.

The SPLA official declared his rejection of the hireling Numayri's suspicious proposals for the following reasons:-

1) Sudan's problem should be solved in a Sudanese framework away from American agents.

2) According to hireling Numayri, the movement and the army is a regional movement concerning the south. In reality, it is a movement whose aim is liberating and uniting all Sudan.

3) Hireling Numayri signed treaties with many movements only to abrogate them. What he did with the free officers who exploded the May Revolution in 1969 proves that the hireling has no credibility whatsoever. He put those who carried out the revolution in prisons and killed some of them, keeping power to himself.

In 1972 he agreed with the southerners then abrogated the treaty in 1983. In 1976 he agreed with Sadeq Mahdi then finished him off and put him in prison.

He used to pretend that he supported the Palestinian cause and the liberation of Palestine, now he revealed his true side by supporting defunct Sadat and by recognising the Camp David treaty of treason.

The SPLA official said considering these facts, the SPLA leadership totally reject any peacemaking with hireling Numayri and would like to confirm the continuity of the struggle till the liberation of all Sudan.

The official confirmed that the SPLA is not fighting for posts but for putting an end to a corrupt rule and for liberating and uniting the Sudan in the interest of the whole Sudanese people.

Southern Members of Juba Army, Police Disarmed

EA021617 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] According to Radio Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] special correspondent in Juba, all southern Sudanese members of the Army and police in Juba have been disarmed by the authorities there on 29th December. According to the correspondent, the reasons for disarming these soldiers by the regime are: the recent appeal by the leader of the SPLA-SPLM for all the members of the SPLA clandestine cells in the Army, police, and prisons in Juba to defect forthwith and join the SPLA and the preparations for Numayri's secret visit to Juba on 31st December.

It is to be recalled that the regime about 2 months ago arrested a number of officers, NCO's and men, both from the western and southern parts of the country. Commenting on this, the spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM said: These moves by Numayri are a facesaving action to deceive the Sudanese people and the world at large that the current revolutionary struggle spearheaded by the SPLA-SPLM is a racial one, a thing the SPLA-SPLM have clearly rejected in its manifesto. He went on to say that the current situation in the Sudan has now reached a concrete revolutionary situation and therefore it does not matter what the regime does. Members of the Army, police, prison wardens, and game scouts in Juba are welcome to join the SPLA-SPLM with or without their arms. We need their experience. If the regime takes away their arms it cannot take away their technical expertise, which we need, he concluded.

WESTERN SAHARA

Communique Says 65 Moroccan Soldiers Killed

LD021918 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Sixty-five Moroccan soldiers killed and 55 others wounded, several vehicles destroyed: That is the balance of an attack launched the day before yesterday against a Moroccan position at Oued (Draa) in Western Sahara. This operation comes within the framework of the continuation of the Great Maghreb Offensive, according to a communique published today by the Saharan Ministry of Information.

Faced with the intransigence of Rabat in its policy to reject resolutions by the international community for a peaceful solution of the Moroccan-Saharan conflict, the People's Liberation Army will every day inflict upon Rabat's troops more and more severe losses.

ETHIOPIA

Tigre Front Kills 24 Soldiers in 29 Dec Attack

EA011139 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Tigre — Units of the TPLF [Tigre People's Liberation Front] attacked one enemy company encamped between Bala and Alamata.

During this attack on Saturday, 29 December, 24 Dergue soldiers were killed and 8 [word indistinct]. Many of the soldiers who died or were wounded or captured were youths whom the Dergue recruited in its first round of national military service. The enemy also suffered the loss of 41 light weapons, 1 Bren, 2 pistols, 1 RPG, and 1 PRP-77 radio.

The TPLF units also attacked an enemy reinforcement force that had come from Alamata and Bala and forced it to retreat.

SOMALIA

Barre Signs Secret Military Agreement With S. Africa

EA021609 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Oromo 0500 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Colonel Abdullahi Yusuf, a DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] representative, yesterday disclosed in Nairobi that the Pretoria regime has signed an agreement with the Siad Barre regime on opening a military base in southern Somalia. He said this on a radio called the Voice of Somalia [as heard] which is broadcast by a group opposing the Somali Government. He also revealed that the Pieter W. Botha regime had signed a secret agreement with Siad Barre's regime on opening a military base in Kismayu. The colonel said in his statement that Siad Barre had concluded the agreement with the apartheid regime in violation of the OAU charter.

Radio Halgan Reports 'Invasion' of DFSS Bases

EA021847 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] In an invasion launched by the loyalist troops of Siad Barre on Balambal bases administered by the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, in central Somalia, 64 Siad Barre soldiers were killed and many others were wounded.

The invasion launched by the forces of the terror regime yesterday morning, 1 January 1985, on the 15th Gorod Division of the DFSS bases, was carried out by units of the 15th and 21st Divisions of Somalia. Other units reinforced them with tanks, APC's, jeeps, and artillery.

DFSS Command Spokesman Warns Government Troops

EA021947 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] A senior officer speaking on behalf of the high command of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, has issued a very strong warning to the loyalist troops of the Siad Barre regime. It said the armed struggle of the Somali opposition forces is aimed at safeguarding Somalia's nationhood. The fighters of the Somali opposition forces have staked their lives on toppling the Siad Barre regime and winning the final victory for the Somali nation.

The senior officer said in his warning that the invasion in which the Siad Barre forces attempted to recapture the DFSS bases was an attempted reprisal for the recent successful attack by the Somali opposition forces on the regime's bases in Togdher and northwest regions of Somalia and in the Ghel Gudut region in central Somalia in December 1984 in which the Somali opposition forces crushed the regime's loyalist troops and captured and destroyed very large quantities of weapons. The senior officer added that the Siad Barre regime's attempt to recapture some of the front's bases was a dream that the regime could not bring to realization.

The senior officer added: We warn the Somali forces being pressed into fighting not to obey the absurd orders to fight the fighters for the salvation of the Somali nation.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Two Zairian Opposition 'Militants' Arrested

AB021752 Paris AFP in French 1655 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Geneva, 2 Jan (AFP) — Two militants of the Zairian opposition party, the PDSC (Congolese Democratic and Socialist Party), were arrested on 3 December 1984 in Bangui and accused of illegal entry into the CAR, a spokesman for the PDSC told AFP in Geneva today.

Fior Muyinda, the first secretary of the PDSC, and Leonard Mulopo, the party's official in charge of external relations, who have both enjoyed the status of political refugees in Switzerland for about 10 years, had gone to the CAR to visit members of their families, according to the spokesman for the PDSC. They were scheduled to return to Switzerland on 5 December.

"The CAR might hand over our two militants to Zaire in compliance with secret bilateral extradition treaties," said the spokesman, who added that a liberation committee would be set up on 3 January. He further said: Switzerland cannot intervene officially to ask for their release because according to its laws, any political refugee travels out of the country at his own risk.

He went on to say: The PDSC has a serious dispute with President Mobutu, the Zairian head of state. The spokesman stated that Madame Danielle Mitterrand refused to accompany the French head of state on his recent trip to Zaire following a petition filed by the militants of that party, whose headquarters is in Lausanne. Last May Mr Muyinda announced his candidacy to the July 1984 presidential elections in Zaire, but President Mobutu banned him from returning to Zaire, the spokesman for the PDSC added.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso on Chad, Economic Problems

AB021055 Paris AFP in French 1127 GMT 1 Jan 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 1 Jan (AFP) — The Congolese head of state, President Sassou-Nguesso, reaffirmed the readiness of his country to help the Chadian people recover peace and national unity. Talking about the recent summits in Brazzaville of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa and of the Economic Community of Central African States in his end of year message, the Congolese leader stated that these conferences comfirmed Congo's African policy, "the guidelines of which are preservation of peace in the world, understanding, good neighborliness, and cooperation."

President Nguesso cited the economic difficulties confronting Africa, which, he said, is the region most seriously affected by the crisis, adding that apart from the effects of the disordered structures of the world economy, "Africa must add to its misfortunes the natural calamities against which, alas, it is helpless." All this, he added, portends no better future for the African Continent.

On the (?domestic) scene, President Sassou called on his fellow countrymen to work and denounced "those who expect everything from the state without giving it anything, forgetting that they themselves are economic factors, the authors of change, and the prime movers of development." The head of state once again stressed his call for self-sufficiency in food and recalled that "the people who do not produce what they consume are not free people."

GABON

Bongo Conciliatory Toward Exiles in Year-End Message

AB022037 Paris AFP in English 1102 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Libreville, Jan 2 (AFP) — Gabonese President Omar Bongo today held out an olive branch to exiled opponents, but appeared to rule out any change from a one-party state.

In his new year message President Bongo called for a national dialogue to strengthen unity, including those who lived outside the country. "More than ever, the time has come for frank dialogue, with each and everyone, without looking back," he said. "Gabonese living abroad must know, once more, that Gabon is their mother country."

President Bongo called on the population to reject the "spirit of tribalism" and to "think Gabonese, act Gabonese and live Gabonese." But he also urged them to increase their activities within the ruling Gabonese Democratic Party. "You should not lose sight of the fact that the party is fed on your thinking" and "constitutes at the same time the base and the summit of the state," he said.

The main Gabonese opposition, the Paris-based Movement for National Recovery (Morena), wants to see a multi-party system in Gabon.

ZAIRE

Belgian, UN Envoys, Kinshasa Governor Lose Posts

AB021807 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1451 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 2 Jan (AZAP) — The year 1985 begins with the profound reorganization of the territorial administration and a reaffirmation of the desire to wage a war against the accumulation of posts, notably in the areas of public and territorial administration, as well as membership in the MPR Central Committee.

Two ambassadors, Citizen Tshibwabwa Ashila Pashi and Inonga Lokongo, accredited to Brussels and New York respectively, as well as the governor of the City of Kinshasa, Citizen Kabaidi wa Kabaidi, have been affected by this order. They have lost their posts of ambassador and governor but still remain members of the Central Committee. Another regional governor, Citizen Duga Kugbe Toro of the Kasai Region, also a member of the Central Committee, has appealed to the head of state. In this appeal, he asked to be allowed to continue to work in the

territorial administration, even if he has to give up his post in the Central Committee.

It is believed that the head of state has replied favorably to the request of this great public servant, a renowned MPR militant who is endowed with unlimited talents for mobilization; already, he is on the list of regional governors drawn up in Ordinance No 84-254, signed by the president on 27 December 1984.

Five new names have appeared on the national political scene as MPR regional chairmen and regional governors. They are: Citizens Bangala Basila, Mpambia Musanga Bekaja, Salumu Amisis, Sambia Gere Danu, and Tshimbombo Mukuna. Four regional governors retain their posts. They are: Citizens Duga Kugbe Toro, Konde Vila Ki Kanda, Makolo Jibikilayi, and Mwando Nsimba. On the other hand, Citizens Kabaidi wa Kabaidi, Mandungu Bula Nyati, Sukadi Bulayi Mudimbe, and Zamundu Agenong'ha Kasongo leave their posts of regional MPR chairmen and regional governors.

It is also worth recalling that a former regional governor, Citizen Kititwa Tumansi, has already lost his post because of the accummulation of posts as he was appointed the first deputy chairman of the Central Committee during the eighth ordinary session of the organ in March 1984.

In circles close to the Central Committee, it is believed that on Sunday, 16 December 1984, a special meeting was held under the chairmanship of the MPR founding chairman at Camp Tshatshi. It seems that among the issues on the agenda was the plurality of offices of regional governors, ambassadors, and state representatives in public corporations along with membership in the Central Committee. The MPR founding chairman reportedly made himself clear on this point, especially on the risk which plurality of functions involves, as it can create loopholes in the discipline and unity within the MPR command.

As a matter of fact, it is an open secret that many members of the Central Committee who hold public offices use the pretext of their membership in the party's leading body to challenge the authority of their superiors, even when these superiors themselves are also members of the Central Committee.

On Saturday, 22 December 1984, the head of state reportedly received at Mont Ngaliema the regional governors and ambassadors who are members of the Central Committee and told them that he was terminating their functions as ambassadors and governors.

In so doing, the head of state confirms the incompatibility between the functions of governor, ambassador, and state representative, on one hand, and membership in the Central Committee,on the other. As stated earlier, the renewed appointment of Citizen Duga means that the head of state has granted his request made through the appropriate channels and has received a favorable comment from the state commissioner for territorial administration. Citizen Duga is likely to lose his membership in the Central Committee as a result of this choice, even though the function of governor is lower than that of member of the Central Committee.

One trend emerges from this reorganization: the head of state's choice for persons who have a long career experience in public or territorial administration, such as Citizen Mpanbia Musanga Bekaja, Salumu Amisi, and Pambia Gere Danu, who have been promoted to the rank of regional governors and who have served with dignity in the department of territorial administration.

It is also important to underscore the rejuvenation of the executive of the territorial administration with the nomination of 12 regional governors, among whom figures a young woman, Citizen Nkoy Mafuta, who has worked for several years in the Department of Territorial Administration. Three former deputy regional governors, Citizens Zungombe, Mbalanga Hahe Emombongolia, and Yoka Lokwa, were put on the compulsory retirement list with the rank of secretary general.

Thus the widespread general opinion according to which "one does not change a winning team" and which remains basically valid, does not, however, reduce the party to stagnation. This is evident by the scope of the changes which today affect the uppermost levels of the Department of Territorial Administration. These changes are also motivated by the house-cleaning exercise which, after the shakeup at the Ministry of Education, is spreading to other sectors of the national life, as well as by the quest for more efficiency. The accumulation of functions, as is knwon, tends to lower the productivity of the party's executive officers, who wrongly think that their positions as members of the Central Committee assure them special privileges or even impunity.

In fact, thinking that they are exempted from giving accounts to their superiors, these high officials very often adopt a wait-and-see attitude in the execution of their duties because they have neither the time nor the energy to devote themselves to a detailed examination of the documents. As the saying goes: Grasp all, lose all.

Therefore, the end of the accumulation of duties is also the end of the dissipation of energies and conflicts of competence and precedence which result in rigidity and obstruction of the state services.

Brussels: Ambasssadors 'Relieved'

LD021527 Brussels in French to Africa 1500 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The Zairian ambassadors to Belgium and to the United Nations have been relieved of their posts. Early this afternoon it was learned that the two ambassadors had been recalled to Kinshasa, and well-informed sources in the Zairian capital stressed that the ambassadors recently addressed a memorandum to President Mobutu calling for the dismissal of high-ranking officials implicated in corruption, smuggling, and drug-trafficking rackets, including the discovery of heroin in a suitcase addressed to the Zairian Embassy in Luxembourg.

GHANA

Board Explains Implementation of Recent Wage Increases

AB022016 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The Prices and Incomes Board [PIB] has explained that the recent increase in wages and salaries does not mean that every worker's pay is to be doubled. The executive director of the PIB, Dr (D.J.) Yankey, gave this explanation today when officials of statutory corporations went to seek clarifications on how the increases should be implemented following the statement made by the secretary general of the Trades Union Congress [TUC], A.K. Yankey, at the just-ended New Year School at Legon.

The TUC boss said the increase affects every worker equally and that this means each worker's pay is to be doubled. According to Dr Yankey of the PIB, separate charts have been prepared for the public and private sectors for the implementation of the increases. With the public sector, all organizations are to adjust to a 52-cedis-50-pesewas daily wage, excluding rent allowance for the month of December 1984. Each organization is to deduct from the 52 cedis 50 pesewas the minimum daily wage prevailing in that organization prior to December 1984. The percentage difference over 35 cedis basic daily wage then becomes the adjustment factor for all levels within the organization. Guidelines for the graduated increases chart issued from the PIB to the public sector asked all organizations to submit the adjusted scales to the board for vetting and approval. He said defaulting organizations would be penalized.

Both the secretary for labor and social welfare, Ato Austin, and the chairman of the tripartite committee, Mr Wood, when contacted by a Ghana Broadcasting Corporation correspondent to confirm or deny the statement of the TUC boss, said only that the matter would be considered at a meeting of the tripartite committee next Wednesday. It will be recalled that the announcement about the salary increases l[illegible] month said the minimum rationalization wage was bei[illegible] increased by 100 percent. It added, however, that 50 percent was to be paid at the end of December 1984 with the 100 percent taking effect from 1 January this year.

Citizens Expelled From Nigeria Arrive in Accra

AB012121 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Twenty-one Ghanaians have been flown home from Lagos aboard a Nigerian Airways plane after being expelled as illegal immigrants. A spokesman for the deportees told the GHANA NEWS AGENCY in Accra that they were rounded up by the Nigerian security agents in a police-cum-military exercise aimed at ridding the country of illegal aliens.

According to the spokesman, they had been in cells for periods ranging from 6 months to 1 year. He said there are nationals from neighboring countries who have been in cells for nearly 3 years now.

GUINEA

President Conte Delivers New Year Address

AB010900 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 31 Dec 84

[New year message to nation by President Colonel Lansana Conte; in Conakry — live]

[Text] Guineans, the year 1984 was a year of hope for Guinea. In 1985 we will know if the bet we made on national redress will be won and if our country is capable of building a new society which is deeply rooted in its traditions and turned toward the future. This society must be built with a collective effort. Under the former regime, the state interfered with everything. Private initiative was stifled and individuals could not assume their responsibilities. It is only Guineans who can make Guinea a prosperous, united, and happy nation. The state has an essential role to play to ensure the development and the cohesion of the country, but in playing this role it should promote private initiative in the economic sector and the participation of everyone in public affairs.

This evening I will present a perspective of efforts that I demand from all and the major policy guideliness that I propose to the country in the economic sector, as well as in the organization of community life.

In the economic sector, the state has identified three [as heard] priority areas — the setting up of an infranstructure, the exploitation of natural resources, the promotion of private investment, and, most importantly, agricultural production.

The establishment of our infrastructure has begun, and in 1985 we will be able to see concrete results, notably in the areas of road networks and transport.

Mineral resources presently supply the nation with most of its revenue; however, they are far from being correctly exploited, and they do not always benefit the communities. We should intensify our research to learn the exact mineral potential of the country, and since these resources are not renewable, we should exploit them rationally and for the benefit of all citizens.

Under the former regime, some resources were diverted to the exclusive profit of a clan. Today, the diamond industry is subjected to large-scale smuggling and embezzlement, which have adverse effects on the nation's productive activities, especially agriculture. Diamonds are smuggled out of the country. The illegal exploitation of gold leads to the destruction of the country's best deposits without any sizeable compensation for the people. The Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] has therefore decided that beginning 1 January 1985, private diamond exploitation is forbidden throughout the country. The affected zones will be exploited industrially by joint enterprises and the state will be responsible for guaranteeing the interests of the people.

Concerning gold, the Ministry of Planning and Natural Resources is charged with collecting all data on the deposits and

organizing exploitation and production in conjunction with joint technical, financial, and commercial enterprises operating in the affected areas. We could thus put an end to this illegal exploitation by taking into account the practices existing in this field. Measures have been taken to ensure that nothing hinders the implementation of these decisions.

In the short term, it is not the riches of the subsoil that will make Guineans prosper, but those of our top soil. A greater part of our efforts must be devoted to agriculture. We have three objectives in the agricultural sector: to diversify food crops and increase their production in order to rapidly attain self-sufficiency in food; to increase production of agricultural raw materials and develop local industries to transform these materials; and to develop export crops so that we do not rely solely on mineral products. We know that Guinean farmers are all mobilized and are working hard to help us achieve these three objectives. The state should also assist them by setting up irrigation projects, by providing them with technical assistance, by promoting the storage and conservation of products as well as price stabilization, by ensuring that these products are sold at prices that will benefit the farmers so that they earn enough to satisfy their needs, and finally by promoting a rural integrated development, that is, promoting the economic activities of an area on the basis of production and the needs of farmers in this area.

Thus, the setting up of crafts and industrial activities in a particular area will enable us to manufacture some of the products needed by the inhabitants there and to process some crops in the area where they were raised. For example, the setting up in Upper Guinea of spinning mills, textile factories, and oil mills will provide cotton farmers with markets for their crop and offer jobs to the local labor market. Our farmers are primarily responsible for the development of the country; the state is only there to assist them and this is its primary function. It wants to deal with responsible and efficient farmers. I therefore invite Guinean farmers to form producers' associations and free-distribution and marketing cooperatives. The free and united farmers will be stronger to defend their interests and therefore those of their country.

To set Guinea on the right track, it is not enough to put the economy back on its feet again. Guinean society must become cohesive and dynamic once again. For this reason the state's role in the society must be redefined, national unity must be reinforced by stamping out tribalism, and true democracy must be gradually established. To overcome this triple challenge, the state must be reorganized from the bottom. This reorganization has begun with the setting up of the district and neighborhood councils. The first role of these councils is to serve as an efficient intermediary between the people and the government because the government should know the Guinean people's opinions and expectations as well as their criticisms in order to define a policy more suitable to their needs. It must also explain this policy and make them understand that the national interest sometimes demands that the government make unpopular decisions.

To ensure this exchange of views, the state and its representatives need people who have direct contacts with the people. The setting up of these links will give the Guinean a liking for the management of the government's property — a liking that 26 years of compulsory and omnipresent policy killed in him. It is by associating people with settling problems that concern them directly where they arise that we can create the conditions for a true democracy. What is at stake in this reform is therefore considerable. This evening I want to specify the conditions necessary for its implementation. The councils will be the mouthpieces of all the inhabitants living in the districts or in the community. They will not be appointed on recommendations from or under the pressure of representatives of the state. They will not be local leading citizens defending their own interests or those of pressure groups. They should not have any link with the men and the structures of the former regime. Nobody should be excluded from them due to tribal considerations. All the small local communities must be included. These four directives are the only ones I will give.

Each community must define the appointment, functional, and renewal procedures of its council by referring to local traditions. In this regard, I will just make two recommendations: call most of the time on the eldest among you for their wisdom and their experience and also take into account the enthusiasm and the dynamism of the younger generation. This evening, I call on each district and each community in Guinea to set up its council during the first quarter of 1985. When the council becomes operational, the state will entrust it with the management of the affairs that can be handled at its level. When in a given sector those councils prove their ability to assume their responsibilities, they will meet to designate the district councils. Later, the district councils will be allowed to elect the regional councils.

Thus, the creation of district and community councils is just the first stage in the establishment of institutions that are truly representative of the people of the country, and in the gradual process which will enable the people to take up their own destiny. This decentralization of the responsibilities of the state offers many advantages. Decisions that take into consideration our realities and which are made with the direct involvement of the people are always the best and are readily accepted. As such, the state will devote its time to more important tasks, and will better assume its reeponsibilities, which will be much less. Finally, national unity is consolidated as each person assumes his responsibilities.

In a country where people of different customs and dialects live together, problems are bound to arise. When some tribes are dominated economically, politically, or culturally by others, they either seek to cut the ties with their dominators or they also, in turn, try to impose their own domination. Each community should consider the other as equal; they should enjoy the same rights and obligations in order to freely express their personalities and cultivate their differences. Tribalism then will be eradicated and national unity will be a reality. It is only when its diversity is accepted and respected that Guinea will consolidate its unity. For a Guinean to be able to receive another Guinean with the hospitality that characterizes the peoples of Africa, individual personalities must be allowed to blossom and no one should feel oppressed because of his origins.

The decentralization which we have initiated today will facilitate this double task, but a major motive for division should be eliminated. Today, Guineans do not feel equal in the face of the

civil service. Civil servants have a mission to serve the public. They should serve all citizens without any distinction, and free of charge. However, in Guinea, they are mostly tribalistic and indulge in malpractices. I am issuing a strong warning this evening. We inherited a plethoric civil service from the former regime. The civil service has more employees than the number needed under this decentralization. This situation cannot continue. Retrenchments cannot be avoided. It will be based on hard work, competence, and honesty. Those who serve the nation conscientiously and with devotion do not have to worry, but those who use their offices to favor members of their families and tribes, those who use public office to cheat Guineans or foreigners who seek their services, will be progressively and systematically removed. I call on the victims of these crooks to oppose their maneuvers and refuse to pay bribes to any civil servant, whatever his grade.

Active and responsible communities that are unbiased, upright, and efficient will help strengthen national unity and restore a true democracy in Guinea. This democracy will not tolerate factionalism and disputes. Cohesion is the prime condition for recovery. We should cultivate what will bring us together and not what will divide us. It will not be a Western-type democracy. Elections are very often means for the people to put their responsibilities on others and give excessive powers to those who take advantage of popular legitimacy. We must invent a democracy that is adapted to realities existing in Africa, that draws inspiration from the community life of our ancestors, and that will be more elevated as we pursue it together, concretely in our country. A constitution will not change this reality: Democracy is not granted, it should be merited, as freedom — its first condition — must be.

Freedom is such a natural asset to man that he only appreciates its importance when he has lost it. This is why we must double our vigilance in this domain. Some of us are still nostalgic for the past. It is difficult to do away with some habits. Some (?old practices) are still going on. We should systematically oppose anything that prevents people from exercising their rights [words indistinct]. I expect that the freedom of conscience, expression, movement, association, and [word indistinct] will be respected all over Guinea, provided that they do not jeopardize national unity.

I wish the people of Guinea and the brotherly peoples of Africa and the world prosperity, peace, and freedom in the year 1985. These wishes will be realized if governments translate the aspirations of their people into action. This is what the Guinean Government pledges to do. This is what I will do with the help of God. Happy new year to Guinea and all Guineans! Long live the Republic!

GUINEA-BISSAU

Former PAIGC Chairman Released From Detention

AB021255 Paris AFP in French 1230 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Bissau, 2 Jan (AFP) — According to an official communique issued in Bissau, the Guinea-Bissau Council of State has decided to release Rafael Barbosa, former PAIGC chairman sentenced to compulsory productive labor by the war tribunal.

Rafael Barbosa, who was chairman of the PAIGC Central Committee during the liberation struggle, was sentenced in 1977 to death for treason. This sentence was later commuted to 15 years of compulsory productive labor. After the November 1980 coup d'etat, Mr Barbosa was freed, but he was arrested again a few months later.

IVORY COAST

President Delivers 1985 New Year Message

AB312119 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 31 Dec 84

[New year address to the nation by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny on 31 December — live or recorded]

[Text] Dear Ivorian brothers and sisters, dear friends of the Ivory Coast: According to some popular stories an unfortunate man was given three wishes by a kind genie. He wasted the first two on futile wishes and the third only served to repair as much as possible the consequences of the preceding bad choices. But the unfortunate person remained in the same deplorable situation as before. The moral behind this story, inspired by the wisdom of nations, is difficult but clear, and signifies that one must know how to seize one's luck and not obey the whims of one's immediate desires, and that in fact what is not achieved through hard work and serious behavior is likely to disappear in a smoke of disillusionment.

I do not have the magic power of fulfilling your wishes, the principal ones of which I am aware, and which I share with you, because they correspond to the preoccupations of all. We would like a brighter future with increased resources for every family, an improvement in the employment situation, good harvests, peace, internal and external security, and a serene and prosperous future for our children and ourselves. Man is not yet capable of mastering the climatic changes on which our harvests depend and we are not capable of intervening with our small resources in repairing the overall world economic situation which preoccupies the most powerful.

But if God accepts our prayers and spares us from irremediable catastrophes, we can all make sure that the future will respond to our wishes. To this end, we merely need to continue to develop our resources and engage in better and honest management; adopt an arduous attitude toward work; increase our professional consciousness through unity, social peace, with the constant aim of making our country more beautiful, stronger, and respected; and by always preferring action to speeches.

Dear friends, it is to each of you that I am expressing my most fraternal wishes so that 1985 can bring you all the joys and successes that you deserve in your families, in your cities and villages, and in your work. And since the United Nations has earmarked 1985 as the international year of the youth, it is to the youth that I now want to express my wishes for a year full of successes in school and academic work for those who are still learning. For those who have a job, I wish them interesting and fruitful work. I will not forget the athletes who have provided us with beautiful and great satisfactions. For them I wish that they

will continue to set the example of endeavor and sound life. To you all, Ivorians and foreigners, our friends inside and outside Ivory Coast, I wish peace for your hearts and good health for you bodies. For our beloved country, I wish 1985 to be a year of happiness and warmth. Long live Ivory Coast. [national anthem played]

LIBERIA

UPP Assures Elections Commission on Slogan

AB022049 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The committee to organize and register the proposed United People's Party, UPP, has assured the Special Elections Commission [Secom] that the use of the word "fight" in the context of their statement during registration ceremonies on 20 December 1984 at Secom does not in any way connote an inclination to violence.

In a release today from the headquarters of the UPP, the committee explained that when they, as politicians, say they will fight against attempts by any political party to rig the ensuing elections, they imply a legal encounter within the scope of the law.

Financial Cooperation Agreement Signed With FRG

AB312227 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 31 Dec 84

[Excerpt] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that the Governments of the Republic of Germany and Liberia today signed an agreement concerning financial cooperation. This agreement follows a memorandum of understanding signed recently between the two countries. According to the agreement, the West German Government has agreed to obtain from the West German Development Loan Corporation in Frankfurt/Main loans to enable the Government of the Republic of Liberia to meet its foreign exchange costs resulting from the purchase of goods and services to cover current civilian requirements and to meet foreign exchange and local currency costs of transport, insurance, and assembly arising in connection with importation of goods financed under the agreement. The agreement is part of the basic financial cooperation agreement signed in Monrovia in 1974 between the two countries.

MALI

President Traore New Year Address to Nation

AB011220 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 31 Dec 84

[New year message to the nation by President Moussa Traore on 31 December; in Bamako — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow Malians: On the eve of the new year, and as has become customary, I take this happy occasion to take stock of the socioeconomic life of the nation over the just-ended year.

The year 1984 was a particularly trying year for our people. In fact, the results of the drought were rudely manifested through insufficient rainfall, making our land so arid that it resulted in a great cereal deficit. Thus efforts of all the party and government authorities were directed toward measures to ensure a regular supply of cereal and other essential commodities. The appeal launched for national solidarity was largely followed by people from all walks of life, as evidenced by the communiques regularly published on national solidarity. This unity of action on the part of all the people in the face of adversity is very comforting.

However, some smugglers and speculators are trying to take advantage of this critical situation by trying to get easy money through selling at high prices and circumventing the government's policy of freezing prices — a policy aimed at safeguarding the purchasing power of workers. The remedial measures taken by several organs of the party, the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], and by several ministries [as heard], notably by the National Union of Malian Women and the National Union of Malian Youth, enable us to contain their nefarious acts. Their activities have, however, disturbed price patterns, which have adversely affected the purchasing power of workers. The party and the government have, therefore, deemed it fair and fit, despite the present difficulties and in spite of the need to firmly continue the economic redress policy, to readjust salaries during the 1985 financial year. Thus, (?I am happy) to announce that the necessary measures have been taken to ensure that this important measure will be implemented during the first quarter. The net increase in salaries will range from 10 to 35 percent. In the implementation of this measure, I am paying particular attention to the plight of low-wage earners.

Fellow Malians, no government action or policy can have the needed effect without rigorous financial management. This is a well-known fact, but which often needs to be remembered.

The social situation in 1984 was marked by difficulties in finding employment and in the outbreaks of diseases. Concerning employment, the government and the party have taken a series of measures, the real effects of which cannot be felt without the support of all the economic sectors. We therefore need the strong will of the youth and workers to overcome this social phenomenon. I am convinced that the potentials of our economy, a developing economy, offer options for the creation of many jobs.

Continued human and financial efforts for the development of cotton and cereal production has led to the improvement in the revenue of farmers in the Second Mali Sugar Production Unit area. Conditions are also favorable for the implementation of the recovery program for the Niger Office and other rural development activities. Right from the beginning of this year, Niger Office sugar production was reorganized into an agroindustrial complex. At the same time, the results of the rice production campaign improved. Priority to rural production is be the watchword that should guide all Malians in their daily activities. Each one of us should think about the help he can give to (?this priority).

Fellow Malians, I would now like to talk to you about our foreign policy. Mali has recently developed and outlined the essential characteristics of its foreign policy [words indistinct]. Apart from

our policy of good neighborliness, which was greatly strengthened, intra-African cooperation was also strengthened and expanded in 1984 to our friendly countries in central Africa, east Africa, and northern Africa. We will also expand our political and economic cooperation with friendly countries from all regions of the world. Such opening to the outside world and the great amount of sympathy we enjoy from friendly countries gives Mali a reputation as a land of welcome and dialogue. On this occasion and on your behalf, we renew our unflinching support for all people fighting for their independence and the dignity. We ardently hope that 1985 will bring peace to these martyred people. We express our gratitude and best wishes to all those who, far from their native lands, share this moment of reflection with us. Our affectionate thoughts also go to our Malian brothers living abroad. To all of them we say: Happy New Year.

May 1985 promote understanding among peoples in order to guarantee peace and create new conditions to bring an end to hunger, diseases, and ignorance in the world. May 1985 see the wishes of all Malians come true and give them the moral and physical strength necessary for the success of their activities and the prosperity of our country.

Long live Mali! Long live the Republic!

NIGERIA

Finance Minister Gives Details of 1985 Budget

AB021801 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1630 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The Federal Military Government is asking for a sum of 100 naira as levy on each ticket for travels outside Africa. This was announced in Lagos today by the minister of finance, Dr O.O. Soleye, while giving details of the 1985 budget. All airlines operating in the country have been directed to start collecting the levy with immediate effect. Diplomats are, however, exempted from payment of the levy. The levy, which is in addition to the present airport tax, is to be contained in a new decree known as the Finance Miscellaneous Taxation Provision Decree. The decree will introduce amendments to both Income Tax Management Act of 1961 and the Companies Income Tax Act of 1979.

Dr Soleye also stated that as from this year a preoperational levy of 500 naira will be imposed on registered companies which failed to commence business 6 months after their incorporation.

On external finances, the minister said that Nigeria's total external indebtedness in respect to medium- and long-term loans as of the end of October last year stood at 7.2 billion naira. Of this amount, 5.57 billion naira represented Federal Government's indebtedness while 2.35 billion [figures as heard] was owed by the state governments. The minister pointed out that the Federal Government had decided that no external borrowing for new projects will be undertaken this fiscal year except for projects considered absolutely essential in the public interest. Dr Soleye said that approval has been given for external financing of water projects in Borno, Cross River, Lagos, and Sokoto States to alleviate social hardships in those areas.

On the International Monetary Fund [IMF], the minister stated that negotiations embarked upon by Nigeria in April last year will be pursued with the view to reaching a final conclusion. An IMF team is to visit Nigeria this month for consultations.

Dr Soleye announced that in view of the high priority which the administration placed on agriculture, additional incentives had been granted to the sector during this fiscal year. This include the approval of a grace period of 1 year in the repayment of loans given to small-scale farmers; a grace period for medium- and large-scale mechanized agriculture involving large capital outlays has been raised to 5 years. Similarly, rural bank branches have been instructed to increase a minimum ratio of deposits granted as credit to rural borrowers from 30 to 40 percent.

Sokoto Governor Orders Smugglers Shot on Sight

AB300950 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Dec 84

[Text] Security agents at the Illela border post between Sokoto State and Niger Republic have been ordered to shoot at sight any person attempting to smuggle goods out of the country. The state governor, Brigadier Garba Duba, gave this directive as he was conducted around the numerous illegal routes being used around the border by smugglers. He also urged the security agents to intensify efforts at curtailing the activities of smugglers.

Governor Clarifies Statement

AB011505 Lagos NAN in English 1432 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] Sokoto, Jan 1 (NAN) — The Sokoto military governor, Brigadier Garba Duba, has clarified an earlier statement credited to him that he ordered the shooting at sight of smugglers at the Illela border post with Niger Republic.

A Government House statement issued in Sokoto today said that what the governor meant was that the security agents should shoot in self-defence whenever their lives were in danger.

The statement said that the governor's directive followed reports that some smugglers had attempted to overrun security agents with vehicles when attempts were made to stop them.

SENEGAL

President Diouf Delivers New Year Address

AB011600 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2030 GMT 31 Dec 84

[New year address by President Abdou Diouf; in Dakar on 31 December — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow Senegalese and foreign nations living among us: A year of hard work for us all is now coming to an end. Certainly, it was a year of joy and pain, of success and failure. In a few hours another year will begin which, according to the law of nature, itself invokes anxiety and hope at the same time.

I will not disregard tradition nor renounce the pleasant duty of presenting to you once again at this end of year, 1984, my best wishes. But before then, let me review with you the serious issues which were at the center of our common concern and the prospects which enable us to hope. My dear fellow countrymen, it is not a matter of taking stock but rather a matter of recalling the features that characterized the situation of the world in 1984 and reviewing the problems that confronted my government and myself and the partial results which we achieved in order to better apprehend the future, because one never finishes constructing a nation.

As you know, the world has not yet overcome the crisis that has been raging for more than a decade. Of course, industrialized countries have experienced a slight improvement in their economies, notably the United States of America, but the Third World, and particularly African countries, continue to endure the hardships of the crisis. Our economies continue to deteriorate.

Fellow Senegalese, as you see, the general world situation is not comforting at all. But that should not make us despair. It is up to all of us to do everything to eliminate this negative trend through a continued and organized effort on our natural environment and on ourselves. Obviously, I know the strain and stress you endure every day to survive in a hostile environment. There is the need for all of us to continue the struggle with discipline and solidarity. It is a national duty for each one of us. In whatever position or function we hold in the society — members of parliament, civil servant, city worker, farmer, fisherman, employer and employee, retired worker, producer and consumer, and so on — you know that no individual nor country can live for long above its means without losing its independence.

That is why for about 5 years now, we have, through a series of reforms, taken measures to rehabilitate our economy, which has been seriously disturbed by hidden structural imbalance. Although countered by natural phenomenon over which we have no power, our efforts have begun to yield results. Not long ago, the full implementation of the 1983-84 adjustment program enabled us to considerably reduce the internal and external imbalance: The total deficit of the operations of the treasury was reduced from 8.2. percent of the gross national product in 1982-83 to 4.7 percent in 1983-84, while the deficit of the external current account before the rescheduling of our debts was reduced from 14 percent to 1.1 percent of the gross national product, even exceeding the projections of the program. These events, which coincided with the entry of more capital than envisaged, enabled us to reduce by half the total balance of payments deficit. But much remains to be done.

The rehabilitation process in which we are engaged means the continuation of our efforts and the maintenance of rigor, especially at a time when encouraging results command us to consolidate them. They should not be wiped away by external factors or by a premature relaxation of the mobilization campaign.

I am appealing to our urban and rural consumers to turn toward the foodstuffs, goods, and services that are produced on our soil. In this regard, I call on the public authorities to gradually create the conditions which will facilitate this reorientation of consumption habits while respecting the free choice of the consumer and the producer, as befits a democratic and free country. To this end, we are determined to act firmly on the offer of substitute domestic products and on the demand of competing with imported products through an appropriate price policy which aims at favoring the first and discouraging the second, as well as through an efficient organization of the distribution network.

Fellow Senegalese, among the many means we have at our disposal, there is one of which we are proud because it is our strength, our energy, and our future. As you might have guessed, I am talking about our youth. I am happy to talk about the youth, especially when the International Year of Youth begins tomorrow. In fact, the United Nations has proclaimed 1985 the International Year of Youth with the theme: Participation, Development, Peace. It is a theme which clearly indicates the direction into which youth activities should be oriented. For several years now, young Senegalese have participated at the side of adults, their elders, in all the decision-making bodies of the nation. The International Year of Youth will, therefore, once again provide an occasion for encouraging such participation, but especially it will be an exceptional year of mobilization around problems of education, training, and socioeconomic insertion of the youth. I remind you that a commission established to prepare this year has been working since July 1983.

My fellow countrymen and youth of our country, to cultivate the sense of duty, the love for work, the spirit of solidarity, and the love of our people and their values, and to develop the sense of the common good is to go back to the pure traditions of our ancestors and the respect of our country. I therefore invite you to make this 1985, which is yours, a year of action and reflection for the youth in order to participate still more positively in the national efforts of economic, social, and cultural development and in the promotion of peace in the world. I declare open in Senegal the International Year of Youth.

Fellow Senegalese and foreigners living among us, I would like to end this speech with what I began: I convey to you my most ardent wishes of well-being, health, and prosperity. In doing so, my mind naturally goes first of all to the sick, to all those who, through physical suffering, are reduced to inactivity. I wish them speedy recovery. I will not forget the aged. May I remind them that in Africa, especially in Senegal, no philosophy or mythology classify them among the last in society. On the contrary, they are the boabab trees of our households, for we still need their (?advice), their wisdom, and their nobility. Are the aged not what all of us will be one day? I wish that the year 1985 will be for Senegal and its people a year of solidarity and brotherhood and of harmony and prosperity. See you next year. Good night!

President Diouf To Visit Nigeria 6-9 Jan

AB022018 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Excerpts] A Cabinet meeting was held this morning under the chairmanship of the head of state. The head of state informed the Cabinet that he would pay an official visit from 6 to 9 January 1985 to the Federal Republic of Nigeria at the invitation of His Excellency President Muhammadu Buhari, Nigerian head of state.

The president of the republic will be accompanied on his trip by the minister of foreign affairs, the minister of industrial development and crafts, and the minister of commerce.

SIERRA LEONE

Iranian Red Crescent Group Leaves 2 Jan

AB022035 Paris AFP in English 1349 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, Jan 2 (AFP) — A four-man delegation from the Iranian Red Crescent organization left Sierra Leone here today for Niger on the latest stage of a 17-day tour of African nations aimed at assessing their health needs.

Members of the delegation, led by Doctor Vahid-i Dastjerdi [spelling of name as received], met here during a 24-hour stay with Sierra Leonean Health Minister Fasulicku Suku-Tamba and also with President Siaka Stevens.

Medical sources here said Iran is to set up a programme for the eradication of malaria in Sierra Leone and also to aid in creating a school of public hygiene.

Similar malaria eradication programmes undertaken by Iran exist in Tanzania, Mozambique and the Ivory Coast, the sources said.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Message to Castro on Anniversary

MB021456 Luanda Domestic in Portuguese 1200 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Message of Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba — date not given]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz: On the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution, I am honored to warmly and fraternally congratulate you, your Communist Party's Central Committee, and the brotherly people of Cuba on behalf of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, the Government of the People's Republic of Angola, and myself. On this festive date, it is a pleasure for me to note the lucid manner in which you have been guiding the destiny of the Cuban people and their revolution and your great personal commitment to the struggle for peace, social progress, and freedom of the oppressed peoples.

The event which is celebrated today has transcendental historical significance, not only for the heroic Cuban people but also for the whole of progressive humankind, because the Cuban revolution's triumph and the subsequent emergence of the first socialist state in Latin America — while simultaneously radically transforming the correlation of forces on the American Continent — have constituted a source of particular courage and inspiration for the liberation movement of the African, Asian, and Latin American peoples.

On the occasion of this important date, I have to recall the memory of Cuba's best sons, such as Camillo Cienfuegos, Che Guevara, and Jose Marti, the intellectual hero of the Cuban revolution, and many other men of profoundly human and revolutionary feeling, who did not spare efforts in order to allow the Cuban people to enjoy the freedom and happiness which they enjoy today.

This anniversary of the Cuban revolution's triumph takes place at a time when the international situation is particulary difficult. Imperialism — which has not assimilated history's lessons — is engaged in new military adventures with the aim of destabilizing the progressive forces which struggle for the building of peaceful, socially just, and progressive societies, free from all kinds of domination and exploitation of man by man. The campaigns of intimidation and threats of aggression against the peoples of Cuba and Nicaragua, launched by American imperialism's belligerent groups, fit into this context. These threats have lately aggravated the region's tense climate.

Despite all these maneuvers, we are convinced that the Cuban people — faithful to the traditions of revolution and struggle which have always characterized them — will be able to neutralize imperialism's plans and that the Cuban revolution will continue its unstoppable march toward the consolidation of socialism's conquests.

I reiterate our desire to see an ever-growing strengthening of the traditional friendship, solidarity, and cooperation ties which unite our peoples, parties, and governments in the common struggle against imperialism and for the well-being and progress of our respective peoples.

My highest and fraternal consideration.

[signed] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and President of the People's Republic of Angola

Voice of Truth Urges Ouster of All Foreign Troops

MB020919 (Clandestine) Voice of Truth in Portuguese to Angola 2000 GMT 1 Jan 85

["Chronicle of the Day" program read by Afonso]

[Text] Friends and comrades, we have entered 1985, a year which will be extremely vital for our survival. It is a year in which we want to finally see a drastic and valid change: We want to see the Cubans leave, plus the MPLA radicals and all foreign forces, including the racist South African troops. We want reconciliation at the national level.

MPLA Chairman Jose Eduardo dos Santos' new year address to the nation is clear. We once again heard a number of promises and appeals that mean nothing, because he has been making them for years while nothing happens. The people no longer pay attention to such new year addresses because they are tired of listening to meaningless words. That is why we, the people, and all the forces who struggle for a (?prosperous), free, and independent Angola, have to make our own (?revolution). We have to decide what we want for 1985, and what we want is totally natural and understandable.

To start with, we all want the Cubans to leave our Angola. Therefore, 1985 must be the year of the defeat of the Cubans and also the withdrawal of all other foreign forces who have been the cause of our destruction and suffering. Therefore, in addition to the Cubans, we are talking about the racist South African troops, SWAPO, and the advisers from the USSR and other countries.

Also, we want the removal of the MPLA radicals who have been the main cause of all our problems, so that we may finally achieve national reconciliation. This will permit a valid reconstruction of our Angola. Naturally, we would like to achieve this reconciliation through peaceful negotiations. However, since the MPLA radicals have clearly stated that they refuse to negotiate with UNITA — thus opting for a protracted civil war — we are left with the alternative of supporting UNITA's armed struggle and conducting a number of actions to bring about a general (?revolt) in our Angola.

Friends and comrades, we have begun 1985. We want our Angola.

LESOTHO

Opposition Leaders Criticize Election 'Maneuvers'

MB030740 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The two leaders of opposition parties in Lesotho have strongly criticized the Kingdom's prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, for what they have termed his maneuvers in imposing a 1-party state in Lesotho.

The leader of the opposition United Democratic Party, Mr Charles Mofeli, says that the proposed general election in the country will be a farce. He says supporters of opposition parties throughout the Kingdom are being intimidated and forced to join the Basotho National Party. He says many people have been threatened and told that if they do not vote for the ruling national party, their homes will be set alight, as has happened before.

The leader of the other opposition party, the Maremetlou Freedom Party, Mr Edwin Leanye, also accused the government of intimidation and harrssing opposition supporters. He says the elections should be preceded by normal life in the Kingdom, but life is still abnormal because of the harassment and intimidation. He says the people do not expect normal free elections.

MALAWI

President Hails 'Peace, Calm, Law, Order' During 1984

MB020743 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has reiterated that the past year was successful because peace and calm, law and order continued to prevail in this country and people had enough food. The life president was speaking at the [words indistinct] stadium in Blantyre yesterday after being entertained by traditional dances by members of the Women's League from the southern region.

The life president said the peace and calm, law and order prevailing in the country had come about because people have responded to his appeal for unity. He explained that since he returned home in 1958, he has appealed to his people not to think in terms of tribes or regions, but as Malawians. He said he was happy the people have listened to his appeals and that Malawians are now living together as a nation, which, he said, is not the case in many African countries.

On the food situation in the country, his excellency the life president thanked his people for responding favorably to his appeals for hard work in the fields. He said this had resulted in the country being self-sufficient in food at a time when many African countries are begging for food. The life president added that because people have worked hard in their fields, producing more of every crop, they have now more money and are using the money to build good houses and to buy themselves decent clothes. At this point the life president said Malawians should thank God for all the blessings bestowed upon this country in 1984.

MOZAMBIQUE

NOTICIAS Article on RSA Nkomati Violations

MB021948 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 26 Dec 84 p 1

[Article by Mario Ferro: "Violations of Nkomati Accord From South Africa"]

[Text] Information has been emerging to the effect that violations of the Nkomati Accord, signed in March between the Governments of Mozambique and South Africa, are being carried out from South African territory. It is worth noting that the Mozambican Government itself has already made generalized references to violations and one of its members has publicly stated that it was imperative that such violations be denounced. The international press has also been saying that the accord is not being fully implemented.

At the mass rally held in Manhica last Monday, one of the armed bandits, who was captured by our defense and security forces, and who was presented to the local residents, clearly confirmed the continued support for the armed bandits from South Africa. Arnaldo Martins Manhica, who hails from Magude, publicly stated that he had been arrested by the South African authorities in October this year in South Africa, where he had gone to look for a job, and he had subsequently been turned over to the armed bandits. He was then trained very briefly, and after the training he was infiltrated into Mozambican territory with other individuals. He was captured about 2 weeks ago by our security and defense forces.

These events, which are taking place 7 months after the signing of the Nkomati Accord, come in the wake of other information reporting nightly violations of Mozambican national airspace by aircraft coming from South Africa. The Portuguese News Agency ANOP has reported that South Africa is using civilian Dakota DC-3 planes to supply arms, ammunition, medicines, and other military equipment to the armed bandits who are operating on Mozambican territory. This information is in addition to statements by Colonel Manuel Antonio, Manica provincial governor, and Major General Domingos Fondo, Inhambane provincial military commander, on spotting planes overflying Mozambican territory to carry out parachute drops.

There are also statements by armed bandits who have been captured by our defense and security forces on nightly flights by planes from South Africa and the parachuting of men and war equipment.

The U.S. newspaper *BOSTON GLOBE* recently reported that there was radio communication between camps of the armed bandits on South African [as published] territory and their main base, at Impala, in northern Transvaal, South Africa. The newspaper says that this camp continues to operate.

When sabotage was carried out on electricity supply lines to Maputo city this month, our country's military authorities then stated that the group of bandits who carried out the attack was recently infiltrated into our country from South Africa, where it

had received specialized training. An official source of our country told us that our government has concrete evidence of violations of the Nkomati Accord. Some 2 weeks ago, Jacinto Veloso, minister in the office of the president for economic affairs, who has been heading our delegation to the talks with the South African Government, said in an interview that there were people and organizations in South Africa who are continuing to support the armed bandits.

A South African member of Parliament, who is a member of the National Party, told us in Johannesburg last month that there were individuals in the South African Defense Force who were opposed to the Nkomati Accord who might have been continuing to support the armed bandits. This legislator said that these individuals were being influenced by the Conservative Party, a racist South African right-wing party which has always opposed the Nkomati Accord.

Article 3 of the Nkomati Accord states that the governments of the two countries "will not permit their respective territories, territorial waters, or airspace to be used as a base, passage, or in any other form by another government, state, foreign military forces, organizations, or individuals who are planning or preparing to carry out violent acts, terrorism, or aggression against their territorial integrity or political independence or who may threaten the security of their inhabitants." According to Article 3, the governments of the two countries also pledged to prohibit and prevent the organization on their respective territories of irregular forces or armed gangs, including mercenaries. They also pledged to eliminate bases, training centers, or arms depots of any kind and vowed to eliminate command posts or centers, and direction and coordination of irregular forces or armed gangs.

At the Manhica rally held on Monday, President Samora Machel said that the main responsibility for the armed banditry in Mozambique rested with South Africa and that in order to put an end to the armed banditry, our government had signed the Nkomati Accord.

Maputo Cites NOTICIAS 1 January Editorial

MB011310 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The People's Republic of Mozambique is a country where the noblest values of mankind are being instituted and promoted. In Mozambique, people brought about human principles honoring respect for freedom and the dignity of man. Here we progressively enforce and promote the land's legal code and justice. Here we put an end to the hierarchy of race, tribe, and the categorization of the country's citizens. This is contained in an editorial published today in NOTICIAS.

These achievements, which are also contained in the end of the year message of President Samora Machel, have become so much a part and parcel of our life that we no longer think about them. If these mere social achievements were attained and are internationally recognized, you would ask, why this barbaric aggression against the Mozambican people? Why this international conspiracy that resorts to perpetrating a most shocking cruelty?

Last week, the Mozambican news media cited articles from the European press disclosing some elements of the international conspiracy which is behind armed banditry. The articles named countries and individuals and presented facts confirming the support in the form of war equipment, the routes used to supply the arms and the mercenaries, and the increased involvement of Western European, Middle Eastern, and southern African countries.

The editorial further stresses that the criminal conspiracy against Mozambique is also a vengeance against history and the humiliation of a defeat of Western interests inflicted by an African people. The 10th year of an independent life that begins today is marked by this challenge. We shall continue our march to achieve our well-being and our stability. We shall pursue the building of a new country which prides itself on having already built noble values and a new civilization. Nothing and no one will ever prevent the Mozambicans from growing and benefiting from the achievements that they forged with their own efforts.

NAMIBIA

Administrator General's New Year Day Message

MB011345 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] The administrator general of Southwest Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, says that while it is true that the territory does not yet have a constitution that enjoys international recognition, it does at least have the Multiparty Conference's Manifesto of Fundamental Rights and Objectives. Delivering his New Year's message, Dr Van Niekerk said that the manifesto was acknowledged in Africa and the Western world as a realistic and encouraging document, embodying the highest democratic principles. There was growing consensus about the need for national reconciliation and cooperation.

Referring to the creation of a sound manpower structure as a top priority in Southwest Africa, Dr Van Niekerk said that a country-wide manpower program had just been completed. Forty-eight study grants had been awarded to promote the quality of the territory's work force, and a comprehensive training program for farm laborers was being planned.

SWAPO Chairman Nujoma's New Year Message

EA021215 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 1 Jan 85

[New year message read by SWAPO Chairman Sam Nujoma; date and place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] Good evening comrades, combatants of the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia [PLAN], and fellow countrymen: I bring to you all season's greetings and best wishes for the new year.

The struggle for the liberation of Namibia has reached unprecedented heights. At this crucial stage of our struggle for national independence, while celebrating Christmas and New Year, it is of cardinal importance for us Namibians to bear in mind that the year 1985 will mark 101 years of colonial domination, oppression, and exploitation in our country. On the other hand, it will mark 25 years of constant popular political mass resistance and, most important, 19 years of formidable and protracted armed liberation struggle.

It must be said the Namibian people have been subjected to 101 years of [words indistinct] detention and all kinds of genocidal acts ever experienced by a people in a world known for violence. This is too much and it is quite a long time. It is something which we as true Namibian patriots should not be happy at or at least be proud about. Our country, Namibia, continues to be illegally occupied and exploited by a foreign country and people. Our people continue to suffer at the hands of the South African Army and police, and South Africa remains adamant to grant us our freedom as our birthright. [sentence as heard]

Fellow countrymen, in my new year's message of the passing year, 1984, I called upon all Namibian patriots to critically analyze the social, political, military, and diplomatic situation in and around Namibia; to identify the real enemy of the Namibian people; to evaluate the successes and setbacks. And indeed I made a clarion call for all Namibians to make all efforts to unite as one nation and one people, to stand up with courage and dignity against [words indistinct] the South African racists. I emphatically pointed out, fellow compatriots, that the independence of our country can only be achieved if all of us are ready to make supreme sacrifices and refuse to be used by South Africa as its tools, and elect to fight against [as heard] our own freedom.

Let me repeat this once more today, for I do not want any one of us to entertain illusions in our minds that racist South Africa is now ready to allow the people of Namibia to determine their own future and destiny. We still are having an arduous and protracted journey to travel to our long cherished national goal. We know too well that South Africa has been making attempts one after another aimed at [word indistinct] the course of history and thus holding back the inevitable liberation of our fatherland. One interim dispensation after another has stumbled on the rock of steadfast resistance of the Namibian patriots led by SWAPO.

We also know that at present the unwanted regime is preparing and has prepared (?brutal) schemes to delay our march to freedom and social emancipation. [Words indistinct] enacted a law by which all male Namibians between the ages of 17 and 55 will be liable to military conscription making Namibians fighting Namibians and creating the basis for a civil war in our country after independence.

In other words, they are sowing the seeds for a harvest of future destabilization and depriving the Namibian people of their sovereignty and genuine independence, thus perpetuating the dependence and exploitation conditions. This conscription is being done at a time when it is being claimed that South Africa is the peacemaker in southern Africa and that progress has been made to solve the problem in the region by peaceful means.

I call on all the Namibian patriots to totally refuse to be hoodwinked or blackmailed into the reactionary schemes of our people's enemy against their population's wishes and aspirations. Agreeing to serve in racist South Africa's fascist and morally corrupt army would constitute an unpatriotic betrayal and an act of ingratitude to our illegally occupied fatherland. It must and has to be totally resisted and vigorously fought against by each and every good-meaning Namibian.

Some of the institutions, such as banks and, in particular, Barclays Bank, Standard Bank, and others, are working hand in glove with the racist authority by inducing and/or compelling their (?laborers) into this illegal recruitment else they forfeit their employment and means of living. I call on them to forthwith desist from this [word indistinct] machination against our people. The sooner they realize the folly of their action the better. They should instead join SAPO in ridding our country and society of colonial racial oppression in which all the people will live equally and happily regardless of the color of their skin, ethnic, or places of origin.

Dear compatriots and countrymen, the year 1985 demands the full unity of the Namibian people to stand together and fight for our freedom. Unity of all patriotic forces of our country has become more necessary than ever before, unity of action and purpose. We should always know that united we shall stand as a people, divided we shall fall and fail as a nation. In fact, the struggle demands courage and determination from each and every one of us. It demands self sacrifice when need be. Let us then tighten our belts for the more difficult days ahead.

We will have to fight our way out to victory. There is no other way out. I therefore call upon each and every true Namibian patriot to join forces with SWAPO. In particular, I call upon the white section of our population which over the years has constantly fallen victim of the racist false propaganda and deliberate insinuations aimed at frightening them not to join or support SWAPO to courageously and heroically stand up and openly reject South Africa's manipulations and intrigues. I know that there are many white Namibians who want genuine freedom of our motherland but, for the reason known to everybody, are afraid to come out in the open against the illegal occupation of our country. [Word indistinct] to follow the example of (Anton Lubowski) and openly identify themselves with the national liberation struggle. Namibia is for all of us. I have time and again

stated that our struggle is not against individual whites or aiming at depriving them of their property. Our struggle is aimed at destroying and smashing colonial domination, apartheid, and racial oppression as well as all reactionary state divisive political seeking to dominate our people on racial and ethnic basis. [sentence as heard]

As we bid farewell to the year 1984, I would like to seize this opportunity to extend salutations and congratulations to all those Namibian patriots who in spite of trials and tribulations remain steadfast in their anticolonial activities. In particular, I wish to salute the commander and gallant combatants of PLAN who have succeeded in scoring impressive military victories against the enemy, raising the price of its illegal occupation of our country very high. By the same reason, I wish to congratulate and thank the masses of our people for their firm and anticolonial commitment and activities which have frustrated South Africa's attempt to impose a puppet regime on our people. I am proud to mention here that the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO have been making a tremendous advance and that the impact of their heroic deeds is being felt in every corner of Namibia.

As we welcome the year 1985 and while having the overwhelming majority of the international community on our side, I would like to call upon all of our people once again to remain united and to redouble their efforts in order to speed up the liberation of our motherland. Our task for this year must be the liberation and winning of independence for our country. We must turn all the stones in making the Namibian soil very hot under the colonial racist feet. Military conscription or any other (?deadly) schemes which the enemy may [word indistinct] must be rejected [words indistinct]. We challenge the Pretoria regime and its western allies, in particular the U.S. Reagan administration, to allow us to exercise our democratic rights through free and fair elections as envisaged in the UNSC [United Nations Security Council] Resolution 435, which they are afraid to have implemented because they know too well that the Namibian people will no doubt elect their true representatives and national aspirations. [sentence as heard]

We, the Namibian people, under the leadership of SWAPO, the vanguard of our movement, continue to rise in national esteem thanks to our determination, capacity, and ever-growing consciousness against the well-armed and imperialist heavily-backed military apparatus of racist South Africa's colonial domination and oppression. Our only determination to fight and even die for our liberty and unfettered national independence is [words indistinct]. We must not allow this to be suppressed by any force of arms or of maneuvers aimed at destroying our just and legitimate struggle. In the patriotic spirit of our revolutionary ancestoral fathers, the struggle must continue. Victory is in sight. SWAPO will win. Namibia shall certainly be free. I thank you very much and good evening, dear fellow freedom fighters and countrymen.

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. Botha Comments on Successes During 1984

MB021152 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says that, in retrospect, South Africa had a very good year in 1984 as far as relations with the rest of Africa are concerned. In an interview with our political news staff, Mr Botha said South Africa had succeeded in furthering its acceptance as a regional power.

Mr Botha said that whether the world liked it or not, South Africa was providing thousands of jobs to people from neighboring states, and that the majority of these workers had crossed South Africa's border illegally. He said he was very hopeful about South Africa's chances of improving its relations with the rest of Africa.

Mr Botha said he had visited quite a number of African countries over the past year, and that he had been received with great hospitality, even though there were differences of opinion with the governments concerned. He said he had been impressed by the realization by these countries of the need to give urgent attention to the problems of development in Africa.

He said that relations between South Africa and Mozambique had been marked by the signing of the Nkomati Accord, and that South Africa had achieved what he called a realistic relationship with Zimbabwe. Mr Botha said that, in his opinion, relations with Lesotho had improved, and that the Lesotho Highlands Water Scheme would be of great benefit to both countries. He said relations with Swaziland had improved, and that talks were underway with Botswana about security matters. He said the big problem remained Southwest Africa and the situation in Angola.

Further on Botha Comments

MB021848 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 2 Jan 84

[Excerpt] South Africa's foreign affairs minister says in his New Year message that he is optimistic about the possibility that South Africa's relations with the rest of Africa will improve this year. He said that South Africa's relations with other states on the continent were good during the past year, and it is continually improving because South Africa is prepared to cooperate within the limits of its ability.

Tutu Says He Met With ANC, PAC Leaders

MB021617 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The Anglican bishop-elect of Johannesburg, Bishop Desmond Tutu, says that while overseas he had talks with leaders of the ANC and the PAC [Pan African Congress] in New York and Dar es Salaam.

Bishop Tutu said he advised the government to hold talks with these leaders as soon as possible so as to resolve the crisis situation in South Africa. He said at a news conference in Johannesburg that the ANC and PAC were not antiwhite and were only striving to bring down the present government in South Africa.

Bishop Tutu said he had not come across any anti-South African or antiwhite sentiment overseas or in Africa. He said that President Kaunda of Zambia and President Nyerere of Tanzania had gone out of their way to assure him that they were not antiwhite. The bishop said that sooner or later the South African Government will have to hold talks with the ANC and the PAC. This should happen as soon as possible so as to defuse the explosive situation in the country. Bishop Tutu said he was thinking in terms of national convention or a constitutional conference.

Further on Tutu Comments

MB021743 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1731 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 2, SAPA — The door to negotiations between the South African Government and the liberation movements was still open, Bishop Desmond Tutu said in Johannesburg today.

The 53-year-old bishop-elect of Johannesburg, who returned to South Africa on monday, told a news conference he had met leaders of the Pan-African Congress and the African National Congress in Dar es Salaam, Lusaka and New York.

"They make it quite clear that they are not, and never have been, anti-white. They are committed to the destruction and overthrow of apartheid to replace it with a dispensation that is just, democratic, non-racial and participatory."

He said there had been rumours recently that the South African Government might negotiate with the ANC and PAC.

"It is no use people pretending we are not going to have to negotiate with the liberation movements. It would be better to do so sooner than later," the bishop said. "These people are not bloodthirsty. All they want is to see their country free. They want apartheid to end."

The 1984 Nobel peace prize laureate said he considered himself a political leader by default, because all the "real leaders" were in jail or in exile. He said he was surprised that the "radical blacks" still listened to him and saw him as a leader.

"Are (whites) not amazed at our patience and our commitment to peaceful change, so that the only two South Africans to have won the Nobel peace prize are both blacks? "Are they not amazed that we can even at this stage say we don't want to drive whites into the sea, but want to build a better tomorrow when black and white will walk tall together into the glorious future opening before us when we will have a new South Africa?"

Bishop Tutu said he hoped for something akin to be a national convention in the country. "We will have to have the conference, call it what you will" he said.

Bishop Tutu Holds News Conference

MB021626 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1614 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 2, SAPA — The minute South Africa dismantles the "curse of apartheid", the country will be welcomed with open arms by the international community, Nobel Peace Prize winner, Bishop Desmond Tutu, said today.

Speaking at a news conference, the bishop-elect of Johannesburg said he had never encountered anti-South African feeling "nor even anti-white feeling" on his overseas tour, during which he visited eight countries.

"It was, and has always been the case, everywhere, anti-injustice, anti-exploitation and anti-apartheid," the bishop said.

Bishop Tutu returned on Monday to South Africa, after meeting "an impressive array" of heads of states, including two monarchs and three presidents.

"When will whites hear what we are trying to say?" the 53-year-old bishop asked. "All we are asking is recognise us as human beings."

The 53-year-old bishop said while he was overseas he felt like a renegade, "living in relative comfort when so many of our people have undergone traumatic experiences in detentions, police searches, through harrowing deaths."

"The irony has been that in the land of my birth, Mr P.W. Botha, first as prime minister and subsequently as state president, has not been over-enthusiastic about meeting church leaders. Whilst the world has acclaimed the SACC [South African Council of Churches] and its general secretary widely and warmly, in our own country we have been perceived as ogres, those whom most whites of this land most love to hate."

Asked whether claims that statements he had made overseas had caused division in the Anglican church, Bishop Tutu said people had to make choices.

"In apartheid there is no neutrality. People who expect me to curry favour and say there is no injustice will wait a long time. We must decide whether the gospel can live side by side with apartheid and injustice," the bishop said.

The bishop said he had never "played to a gallery", although he had been hurt by the harsh criticism, particularly in recent weeks, by the media.

"It hurts me. It is a great ache that people will deliberately misconstrue what I say", Bishop Tutu said.

However, the bishop added, he would start worrying when he was "praised by the likes of certain groups".

"I could have been popular long ago by saying what the establishment wants me to say, but I believe I have a mandate from the scriptures", the bishop added.

Bishop Tutu said his major concern was to be the bishop of Johannesburg. He was a political leader "by default, as those I consider to be the real leaders are in jail or in exile".

He said he hoped the Johannesburg diocese would become "an effective instrument for campaigning for justice".

Bishop Tutu said he was sad to leave the South African Council of Churches, "which has been wonderfully supportive of my ministry and I pay a warm tribute to my SACC colleagues who have been so gloriously vindicated by the Nobel Peace Prize. But I thank God that that great Christian leader and one who has suffered for his faith, Beyers Naude, will be at the helm."

"I hope the white people of South Africa could try to know me, the real me — not what SABC TV, that stranger to the truth, portrays.

"They might discover that I was not in fact the ogre they were led to believe I was — or at least I was a slightly more loveable ogre than they had thought possible," the bishop concluded.

Comments on Disinvestment

MB021638 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Bishop Desmond Tutu has conceded that a successful disinvestment campaign against South Africa carries with it a grave chance of violence.

Addressing a news conference in Johannesburg this afternoon, Bishop Tutu said that if foreign investors did not meet certain conditions soon, he would nevertheless campaign for direct economic sanctions and disinvestment against South Africa.

[Begin video][Cliff Saunders] Bishop Tutu made it very clear that he had no regrets over anything that he had said during his tour abroad. He told the news conference in Johannesburg that his conditions for investment in South Africa were no migratory labor, that blacks be unionized, and that investors must contribute to training and education. The bishop was also asked about his reaction to the extremely bad press he had received in South Africa over some of the statements he had made abroad.

[Tutu] It is actually, of course, a very odd thing. It is a thing that hurts me in many ways because I love to be loved, perhaps more than most people. And it a great ache that people will deliberately wish to misconstrue what I say and why I say it. [end video]

Further on Disinvestment

MB021730 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1703 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 2, SAPA — Although he has never campaigned for disinvestment, Nobel Peace Prize Winner Bishop Desmond Tutu will call for economic sanctions against South Africa if conditions for black workers are not improved within 18-24 months.

"I have called up to now for political, diplomatic but above all economic pressure as our last chance to avert the bloodbath," the bishop said at a news conference in Johannesburg today.

"It is interesting that I have been criticised only by whites and those blacks working within the system," the bishop-elect of Johannesburg said.

"Actually, I have said there ought to be investment but on strict conditions to be implemented within 18-24 months:
— that workers are housed as a family unit near the work place of the breadwinner — no migratory labour;
— workers to be unionised — no influx control, or pass law system;
— to invest in black eduation and training — that is, persuasive pressure."

The bishop said if the measures were not implemented within the time limit, the punitive economic sanctions should be imposed.

The bishop said the time limit for investment should be "almost immediately implemented — to show people we are not unreasonable." He said he might reassess his position on disinvestment earlier than the 24-month time limit he had set.

Asked what sort of measures against apartheid were likely to be passed in the U.S. Congress, Bishop Tutu said it would probably be "a replay of the bill passed in the House of Representatives, which called for no bank loans, no investment and the prohibition of Krugerrand sales."

"Don't be deluded into thinking that the anti-apartheid forces are made up of long-haired unkempt student types. The 35 conservative Republican congressman who have declared they will support economic sanctions, Senators Luger and Kassebaum are not irresponsible long-haired louts," the bishop said.

Bishop Tutu said the two-day stayaway in November, in which almost one million workers participated, gave lie to people saying the first to suffer would be blacks.

"When a ladder falls, it is the people at the top of that ladder who fall hardest," the bishop said.

"Can whites tell us what methods are left to blacks to change the system — we don't have the vote and now you say we must not call for international intervention. What alternative would be left except violence?"

Asked whether the disnivestment campaign was not a risk, as it could cause escalating violence, Bishop Tutu said it was "well worth taking the risk".

The bishop said he "prayed for the day" when the country's tremendous resources would be used to the full.

"There will will never be stability, security and peace in South Africa until there is justice for all, until apartheid, that system as evil, as immoral and as un-Christian as Nazism and Communism, has been dismantled."

Buthelezi Rejects Violence in New Year Message
MB011553 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] The chief minister of the South African national state of Kwazulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, has called for unity among black South Africans and has rejected the violence which took place in black residential areas recently.

In his new year message, Chief Buthelezi said now was the time for black Africans to work in harmony so as not to allow outsiders to exploit the unstable situation.

Referring to an arms cache of the ANC that had been found in the Ingwavuma area in northern Zululand recently, he said that the organization was directing its attacks on the Zulu people in general. Chief Buthelezi reiterated his rejection of violence as a means to bring about change and his commitment to dialogue as a way to achieve peace.

Report on Black Unrest Presented to Government
MB020648 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] The Van der Walt Commission of Inquiry into the unrest in black townships in the Vaal Triangle has found that there was widespread misunderstanding among residents about the functions of the new local authorities and the recommended increases in municipal rates. It is evident from the report that there is overwhelming evidence that education in the Vaal Triangle was not the root cause of the unrest.

The deputy minister of education and training, Mr Sam de Beer, says in a statement this morning acknowledging receipt of the report of Prof Tjaart van der Walt of Potchefstroom University, that he greatly appreciates the positive attitude of the communities involved and the frankness of the evidence led. Mr de Beer said the full text of the Van der Walt report was being carefully studied. He said that the report mentioned that, in respect of the provision of education, the Vaal Triangle was ahead of many other parts of the country. This was apparent from the matric pass figure in the area in 1983 of more than 77 percent, compared with the average 50 percent for the country as a whole.

Professor van der Walt said the violence and arson in the area was not aimed at schools. He found it regrettable, however, that schools and pupils had been used for noneducational ulterior motives. Evidence had shown that education as such was not the cause of the unrest, and that the real problems lay in other areas.

Our political news staff reports that the minister of cooperation, development, and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, is soon to give attention to the noneducational findings of the Van der Walt commission. In the report, Professor van der Walt said there was a serious lack of healthy and effective communication in a number of areas. However, he expressed appreciation for what has already been done in the field of education. The introduction of a new communications structure should make a positive contribution.

Professor van der Walt said there was disappointment and misunderstanding at the government's reaction to the De Lange report's recommendations that there should be a single education department. Mr de Beer said the new department of national education is, in fact, a new central education department, which has as its task the setting of standards and general policy in respect of all population groups.

He again emphasized that the government was irrevocably bound to providing equal educational opportunities and standards for all population groups. With regard to the finding by Professor van der Walt that a feeling existed among blacks that they should have a greater say in matters affecting their own education, Mr de Beer said that an undertaking had already been given, and that urgent attention was being given to restructuring, with a view to giving blacks a greater say and participation in policy-making on the highest level.

Mr de Beer called on parents and the black community, in the interests of their children and themselves, to work for the normalizing of education in the year ahead. Special measures had to be taken, and programs developed, to enable pupils to catch up on lost time and to write their examinations early this year, so that they could advance to the next class without losing a full year.

Report Criticized
MB021347 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Several organizations have criticized the Van der Walt report on the recent unrest in the Vaal Triangle. The survey by the rector of Potchefstroom University, Tjaart van der Walt, was initiated by the government, and details and aspects of the report were released today. The report says that the unrest was not caused by dissatisfaction with the education system, and it expressed regret that school pupils were used for what it calls ulterior motives. The report also says that township residents must understand the role of local authorities and the recommended increases in municipal rates which sparked off the violence.

The Azanian People's Organization says the report is a whitewash, while the United Democratic Front says Van der Walt did not consult with the township residents but only with officials from the Development Board and the community councils.

The Progressive Federal Party said it is easy to blame outside influences for internal unrest and says the party hopes the government will give serious attention to the legitimate grievances expressed by African people.

Johannesburg Analyses Importance of Nkomati Accord
MB310951 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 Dec 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Perhaps it is high time we did some straight talking about the Nkomati Accord, no matter whose toes are trodden on in the process. There is no doubt that we must regard as alarming the latest statement by President Machel of Mozambique. In it, he accuses South Africa of sustaining, developing, equipping, and supplying the RENAMO movement.

In other words, the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique is today in danger of crumbling. So, then, let us examine the situation. One thing that must be realized is that Mozambique became party to the Nkomati Accord mainly because it was concerned about the security situation in that country. RENAMO was becoming increasingly powerful, and the disruption caused by the RENAMO guerrillas was ruining the Mozambican economy, that in conjunction with President Machel's Marxist-socialist policies and his confrontationist policies regarding South Africa.

It was widely believed by the Mozambican Government, and everybody else — although it was officially denied by the South African Government — that South Africa was providing RENAMO with massive assistance, and that without South African assistance RENAMO would fade and fail.

From the South African side, it was widely believed — although officially denied by the Mozambican Government — that Mozambique was providing the ANC with assistance, that there were ANC bases in Mozambique, and that the Mozambican Government was allowing its territory to be used as a springboard for attacks on South Africa. This state of affairs presented South Africa with a problem, not terribly serious, but nevertheless, the ANC attacks had nuisance value. Obviously, therefore, the security problems facing both Mozambique and South Africa were such that they began exploring ways and means of alleviating the situation.

The upshot of it all was Nkomati, and the widely publicized accord that was signed there. For South Africa, the accord represented a valuable diplomatic breakthrough, a tangible signal that, far from wanting to destabilize the subcontinent, South Africa was willing to enter into firm nonaggression agreements, was willing to promote regional cooperation and interdependence.

Mozambique also had economic development goals in mind. However, the main reason why President Machel journeyed to Komatipoort was because he believed that by signing the accord, Mozambique's security problems would become something of the past. The South African Government, he reasoned, would stop supporting RENAMO and within weeks the RENAMO would become nothing but a bad memory. This has not happened, and President Machel is becoming increasingly annoyed and impatient.

The question is, why has RENAMO violence not ceased? It could be argued that the South African Government is continuing to support RENAMO because it does not yet trust the Frelimo government. There are reports that right-wing elements in South Africa and Portuguese expatriates are assisting the RENAMO. There have even been reports that influential elements in Portugal and West Germany and certain countries in the Middle East savor RENAMO.

Whatever the case, it would be surprising indeed if the South African Government today numbered among RENAMO supporters. The diplomatic advantages accruing to South Africa through the Nkomati Accord are just too numerous for this country to want to jeopardize the agreement.

On the other hand, support from these other sources is a strong possibility. Where this support emanates from South African territory, it is high time the government ensured that its foreign policy is not thwarted in this way. Support that RENAMO receives from outside South Africa is not this government's responsibility, nor should President Machel see it as such. Then, again, Mozambique should realize that in the kind of depressed economic situation in which it finds itself, terrorism thrives, and terrorists do not need a great deal of weaponry and other equipment in order to make a great nuisance of themselves. A small number of dedicated terrorists operating from dense bush can cause disruption and widespread instability.

Having said that, let us examine the alternatives to Nkomati because, obviously, any decision by either country to drop Nkomati must mean that the withdrawing country feels it has something better with which to replace the agreement.

For South Africa, the crumbling of Nkomati would undoubtedly constitute a diplomatic loss. It would lead to renewed ANC terror strikes across the border, and it would result in some minor economic losses. For Mozambique, the consequences would be more far-reaching. Let us assume, for argument's sake, that South Africa was, indeed, supporting RENAMO prior to Nkomati. In the event of Nkomati crumbling, it could well be that such support is resumed, and even increased, with incalculable consequences for Mozambique.

Should Mozambique summon the assistance of some Soviet surrogate power, such as the Cubans, the situation might be contained, but it certainly will not be resolved. Thirty-five thousand Cubans in Angola plus East Germans and Russians have kept the MPLA government in power, but its influence and the area it controls are being reduced daily. In addition, the Nkomati Accord has been widely welcomed by the Western powers, and Western aid to Mozambique has been boosted considerably since the signing of the accord. Certainly, if Mozambique turns to the Soviets, Western interests in that country will wane and any possibility of development cooperation between South Africa and Mozambique will disappear over a horizon of gunsmoke and violence.

In the final analysis, Nkomati is of tremendous benefit to both South Africa and Mozambique. However, without Nkomati, South Africa will survive and the consequences will be more of an irritation than a pain. Mozambique without Nkomati will be a far different kettle of fish; for that country, abandoning Nkomati would be the continuation of a road of despair and violence with no hope ahead.

What should be happening is that both parties to Nkomati should ensure that it is implemented both in letter and spirit. It is the only worthwhile course of action.

Johannesburg Comments on Extent of African Diplomacy

MB020722 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] This country's Africa diplomacy is of necessity a quiet process. African governments are, understandably, reluctant to have the gap between their political rhetoric and actual practice in dealings with South Africa made public. When any positive event is made known, therefore, it tends to be seen as an isolated breakthrough, rather than as a further development in a larger pattern of diplomatic initiatives.

That is reflected in the reports about possible landing rights for South African Airways [SAA] at Mogadishu in Somalia, and continuing negotiatons with other countries in that part of Africa. Should the prospect of a cheaper and shorter air route to Europe and the Middle East materialize, it would certainly constitute a remarkable coup for South Africa's foreign affairs team, but the real magnitude of such a breakthrough would lie in the fact that it would indeed not be an isolated exercise, but part of an overall diplomatic initiative, of which the most dramatic outcome so far has been the Nkomati Accord.

It is only through such public demonstrations that the world becomes aware of how comprehensively South Africa is developing ties with other African countries. It is, of course, one of the continent's worst secrets that, despite sanctions campaigns, virtually every country south of the Sahara trades actively with South Africa. After nearly 5 years of trying to move in the opposite direction, seven of the nine members of SADCC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] today deal with this country as their biggest trading partner. But the thriving trade network is only one aspect of the developing relationship.

Earlier this year, Foreign Minister Pik Botha said South Africa has so many African contacts it was impossible to handle them all. After his return from his recent East African visit, Mr Botha said he had talks with governments on trade, commerce, health services, air links, and a variety of other matters of common interest. One of those topics, it appears, was the question of landing rights. According to one report, agreement has already been reached for a regular service by an airline of the Comoros Islands between Cape Town and Jeddah in Saudi Arabia, with stopovers on the Comoros and Mogadishu.

Relations between South Africa and the Comoros underwent a complete reversal during the months preceding and after the signing of the Nkomati Accord last March. Ministers of tourism and transport of the Indian Ocean islands visited South Africa. A trade commissioner was appointed, and SAA was granted landing rights on the islands.

Evidently, the impact of the Nkomati is now extending still further north. No doubt only a small part of what is finally achieved will become public knowledge. Nevertheless even the little that is known reveals a highly active and skillful diplomacy, and an imaginative program to develop for South Africa, as the foreign minister has stated, a role in Africa as a stable and resourceful continental power.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Bhekimpi Delivers New Year Message

AB011851 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 1 Jan 85

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, in his new year message, recalled how the country suffered at the beginning of 1984 from cyclone Domoina, which followed a serious drought. The prime minister says through financial aid from our international friends, the Government of Swaziland has been able to make a beginning towards the rehabilitation of our infrastructure destroyed during the cyclone. He thanked local firms and companies for supporting Swaziland's economic structure after it was hit by Domoina.

Prince Bhekimpi, commenting on the Kingdom's agricultural operations, noted that the government has acquired a $6.2 million loan from the International Fund for Agricultural Development, IFAD, for financing a smallholder credit and marketing product. Between the end of 1983 and December of last year, the prime minister continued, government has been working on plans for the productive utilization of funds farms purchased under the British-funded land purchase program. Through the Ministry of Agriculture, he said, the Government of Swaziland has managed to develop the zeal for maize production, not only on title deed land but on Swazi nation land as well.

Police Commissioner Confirms ANC Members' Escape

MB021735 Mbabane Television Service in Siswati 1630 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] In Mbabane, the commissioner of police, Mr Majaji Simelane, today confirmed that two armed men appeared at the Mbabane Police Station and forced the police to release three members of the ANC. In a message to the Swaziland Television Broadcasting Corporation over the phone, Mr Simelane said he could not say whether the armed men were also members of the ANC, but a statement would be released as soon as investigations have been completed. The commissioner of police concluded by saying that the two armed men staged their attack in the early hours of the morning, at about 0100.